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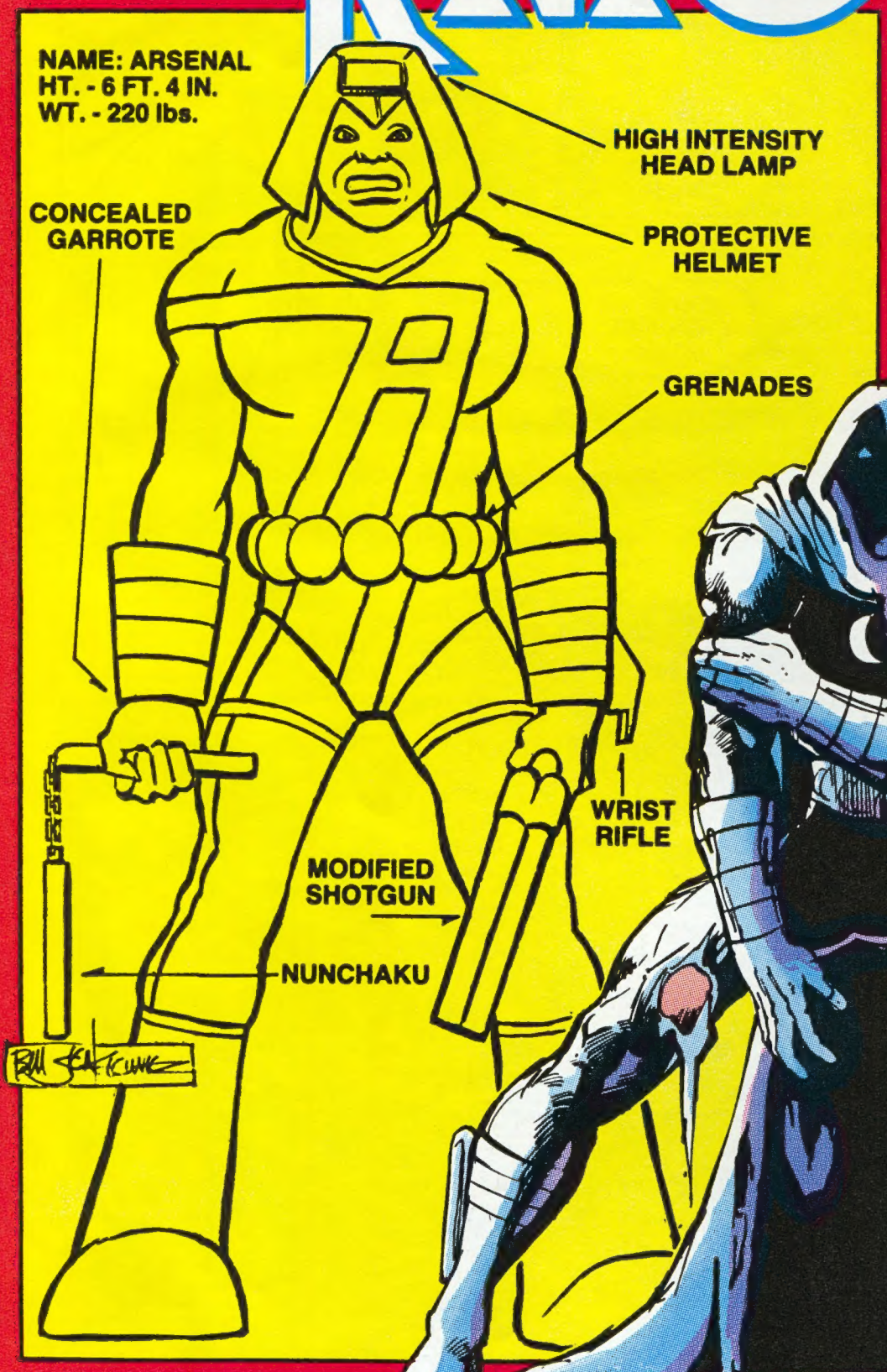
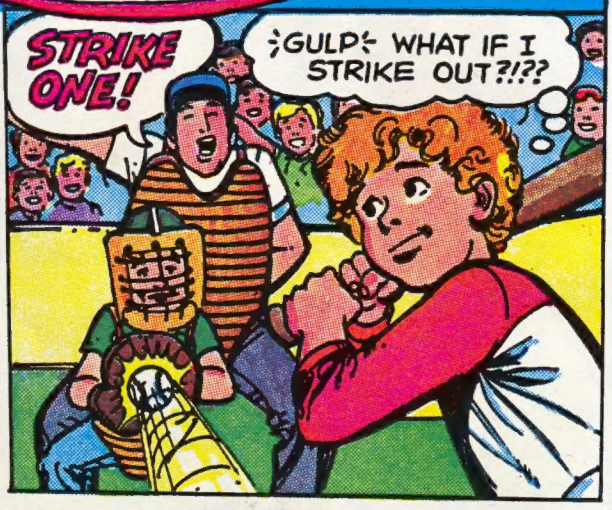
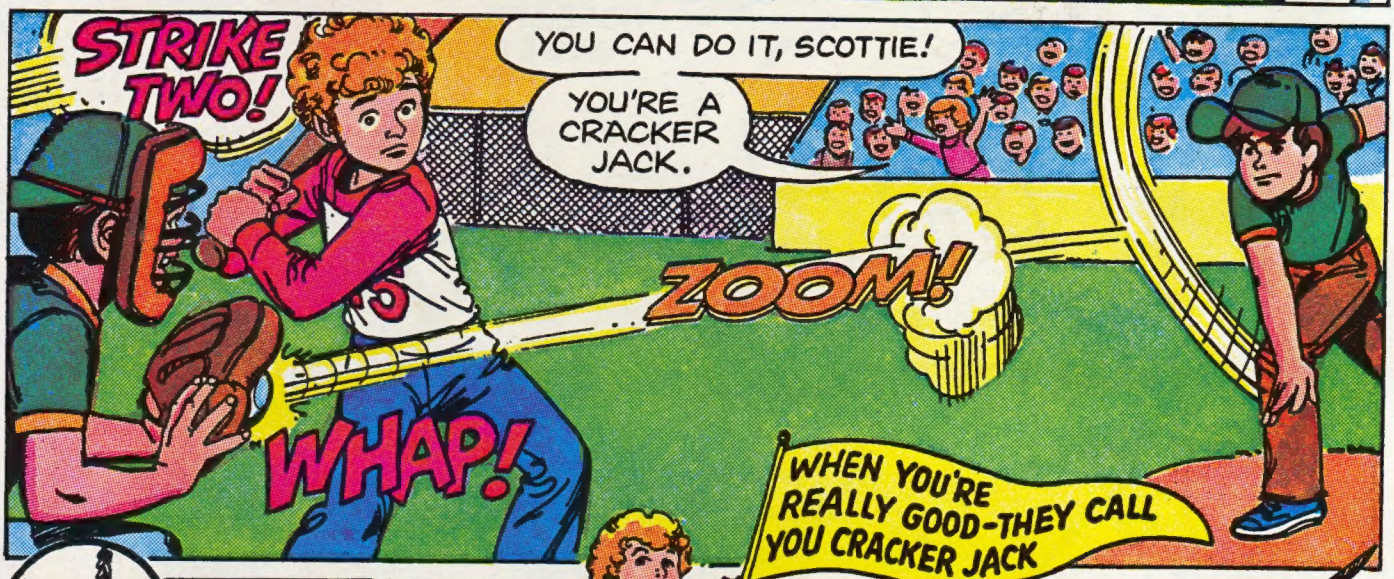
#19

MOON KNIGHT™



SCOTTIE in A Cracker Jack story

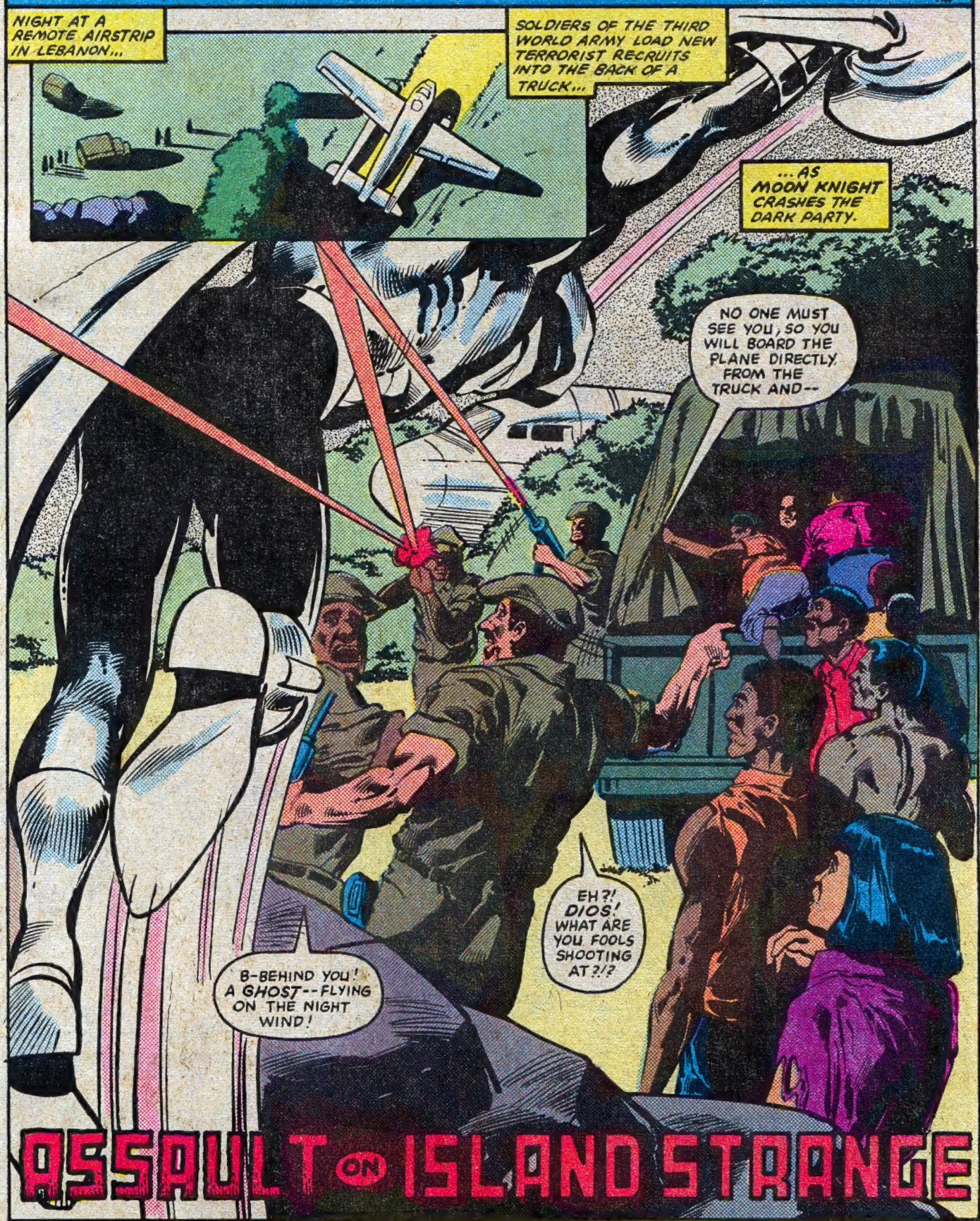




Crunchy caramel-coated popcorn and peanuts and a secret toy surprise!

Stan Lee PRESENTS:

MOON KNIGHT!™



ASSAULT ON ISLAND STRANGE

DOUG MOENCH · BILL SIENKIEWICZ · STEVE MITCHELL · JOHN MORELLI · LETTERS · DENNY O'NEIL · JIM SHOOTER
WRITER ARTIST INKER CHRISTIE SCHEELE-COLOR EDITOR LIKES US

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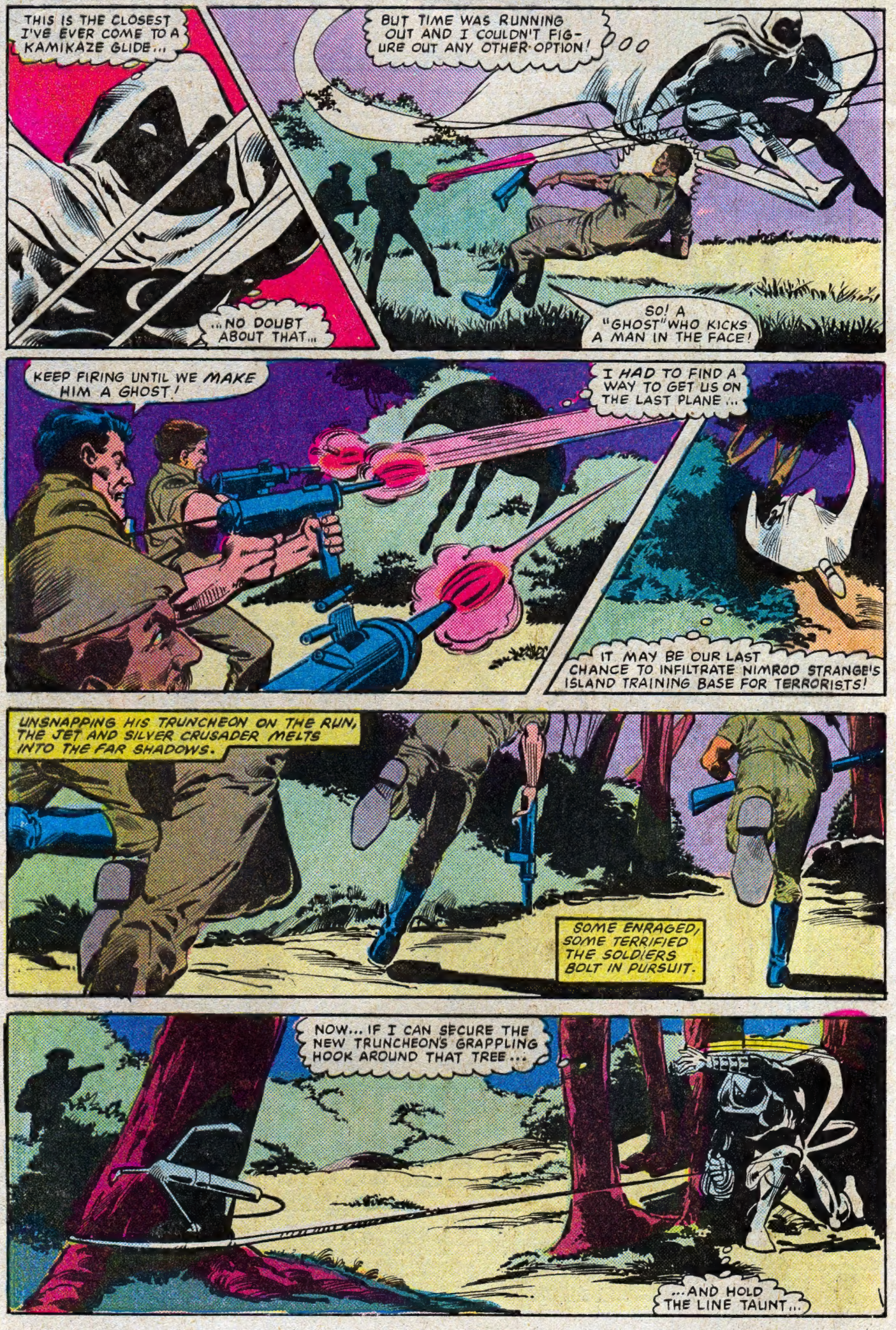
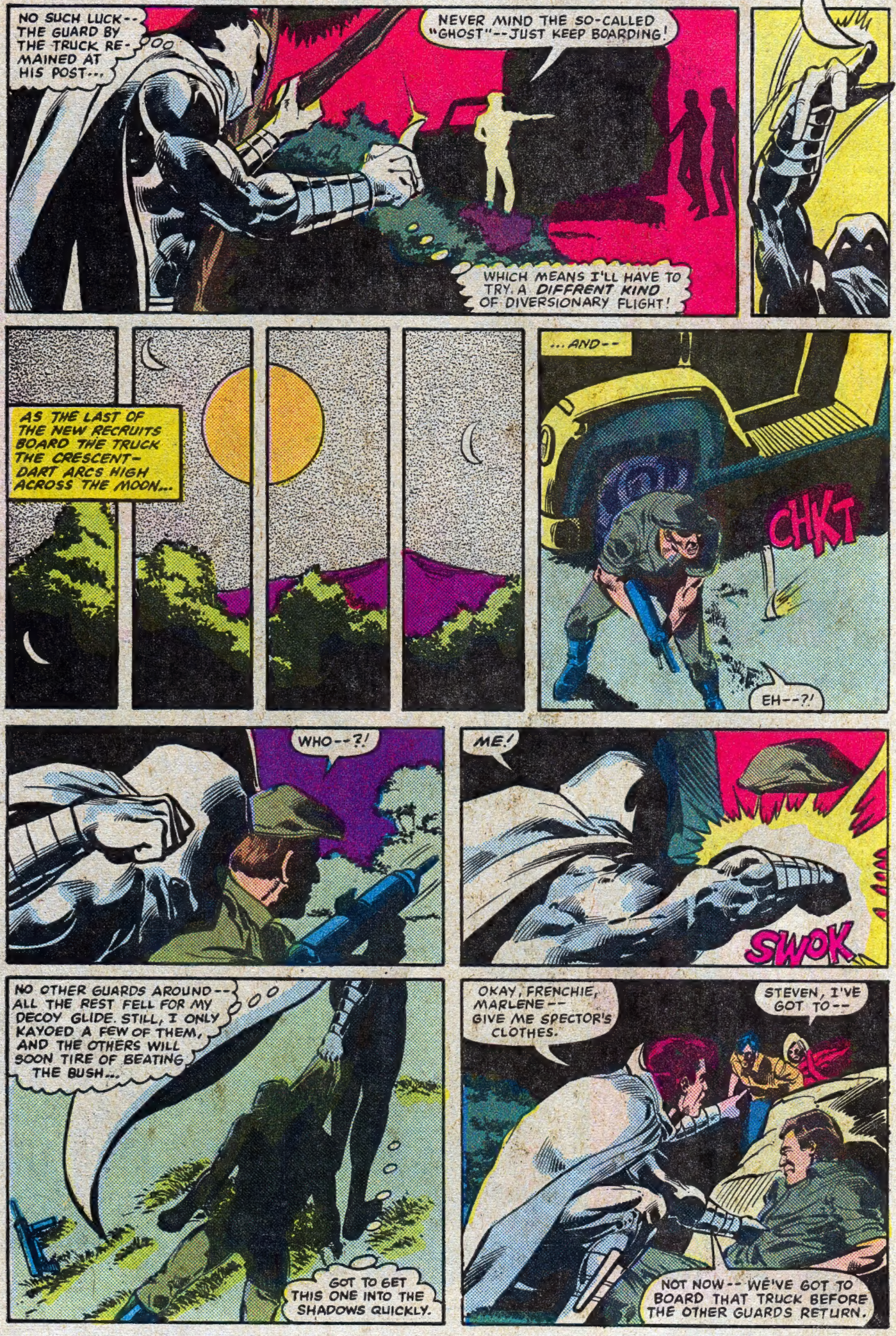
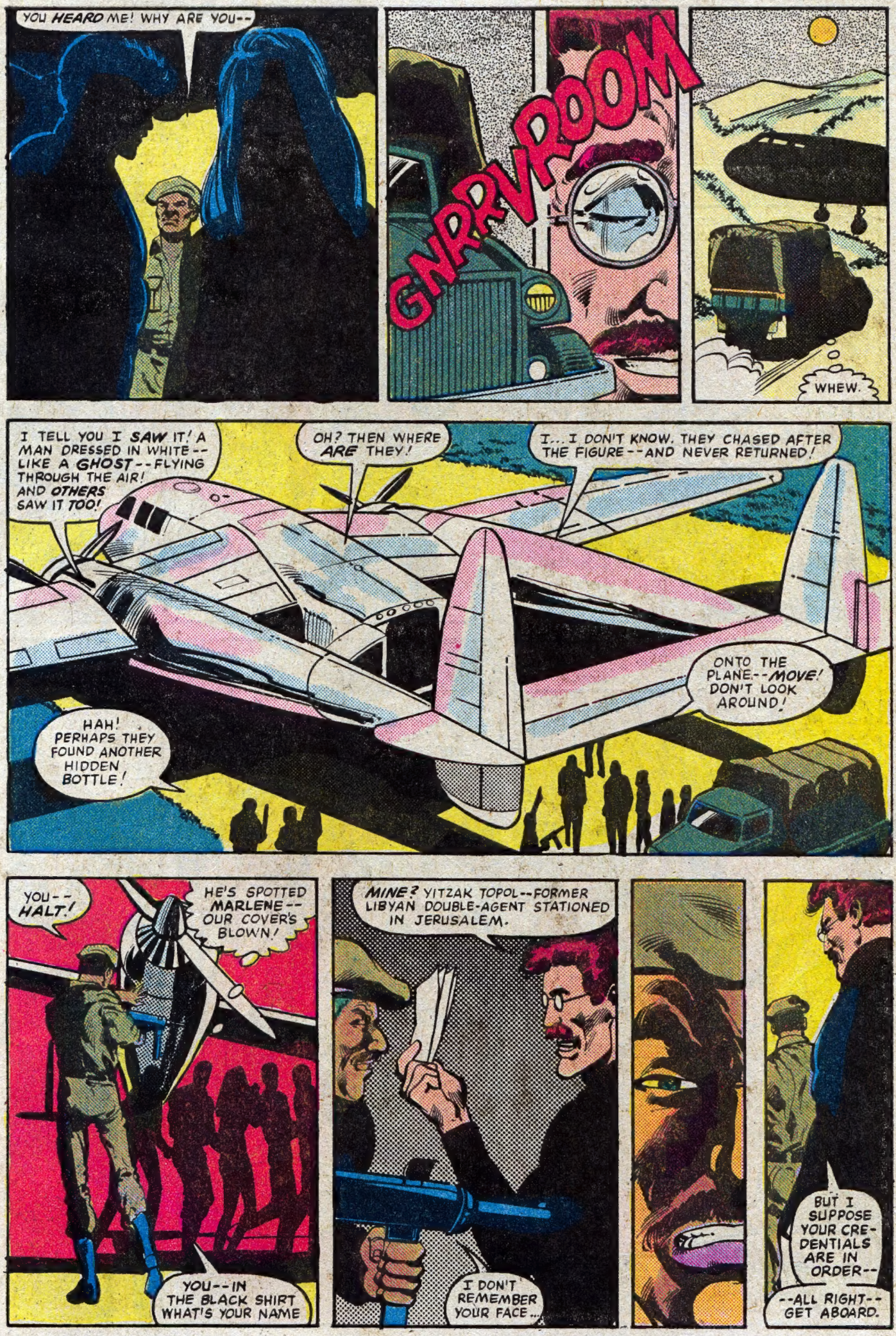

THIS IS THE CLOSEST I'VE EVER COME TO A KAMIKAZE GLIDE...
...NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT...
BUT TIME WAS RUNNING OUT AND I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT ANY OTHER OPTION!
SO! A "GHOST" WHO KICKS A MAN IN THE FACE!
KEEP FIRING UNTIL WE MAKE HIM A GHOST!
I HAD TO FIND A WAY TO GET US ON THE LAST PLANE...
IT MAY BE OUR LAST CHANCE TO INFILTRATE NIMROD STRANGE'S ISLAND TRAINING BASE FOR TERRORISTS!
UNSNAPPING HIS TRUNCHEON ON THE RUN, THE JET AND SILVER CRUSADER MELTS INTO THE FAR SHADOWS.
SOME ENRAGED, SOME TERRIFIED THE SOLDIERS BOLT IN PURSUIT.
NOW... IF I CAN SECURE THE NEW TRUNCHEON'S GRAPPLING HOOK AROUND THAT TREE...
...AND HOLD THE LINE TAUNT...

"...I CAN SEND THEM ON A QUICK TRIP TO OBLIVION."
UHN! IT WAS A TRAP!
"NOW TO CUT THE LINE, FOLD THE GRAPPLING PRONGS DOWN..."
-- OPEN THE TRUNCHEON INTO NUNCHAKS!
CHOK
SKOPT
FRAK
KRAK
TIME TO CIRCLE BACK TO THE TRUCK AND SEE IF I LURED ALL OF THEM AWAY!
SO MUCH FOR MY DIVERSIONARY GLIDE-FLIGHT...
...AND IT WAS HARDLY A SUICIDE-RUN AFTER ALL.
AS HE MOVES, HE CONVERTS THE NUNCHAKS BACK TO HIS TRUNCHEON


NO SUCH LUCK-- THE GUARD BY THE TRUCK REMAINED AT HIS POST...
NEVER MIND THE SO-CALLED "GHOST"--JUST KEEP BOARDING!
WHICH MEANS I'LL HAVE TO TRY A DIFFRENT KIND OF DIVERSIONARY FLIGHT!
AS THE LAST OF THE NEW RECRUITS BOARD THE TRUCK THE CRESCENT-DART ARCS HIGH ACROSS THE MOON...
...AND--
CHKT
EH--?!
WHO--?!
ME!
SWOK
NO OTHER GUARDS AROUND-- ALL THE REST FELL FOR MY DECOY GLIDE. STILL, I ONLY KAYOED A FEW OF THEM, AND THE OTHERS WILL SOON TIRE OF BEATING THE BUSH...
GOT TO GET THIS ONE INTO THE SHADOWS QUICKLY.
OKAY, FRENCHIE, MARLENE-- GIVE ME SPECTOR'S CLOTHES.
STEVEN, I'VE GOT TO--
NOT NOW-- WE'VE GOT TO BOARD THAT TRUCK BEFORE THE OTHER GUARDS RETURN.

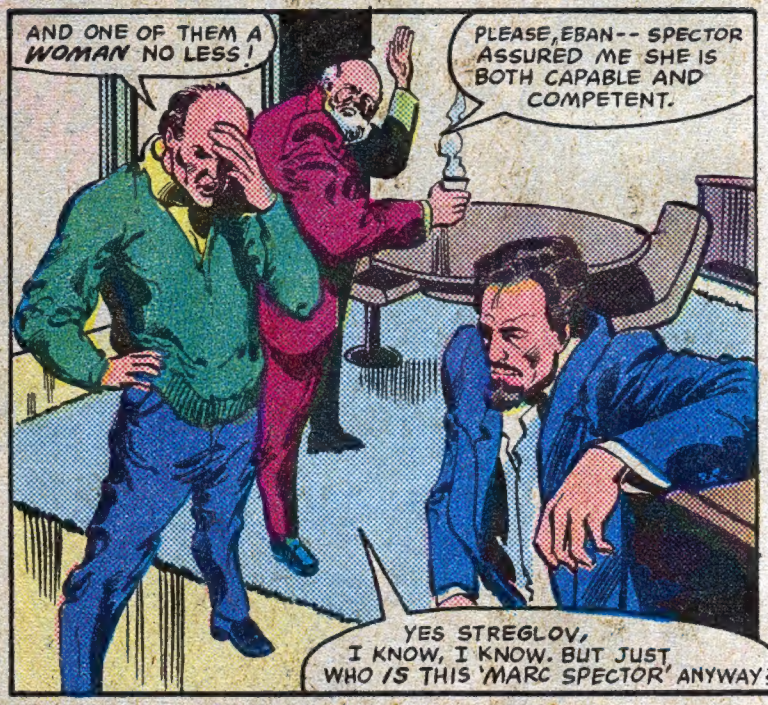
MARC, I THINK YOU SHOULD LISTEN. MARLENE HAS TO--
I SAID NOT NOW AND DON'T CALL ME MARC OR STEVEN! REMEMBER I'VE GOT A NEW I.D. FOR THE DURATION.
NOW... THESE SPECS AND LOCKLEY'S FALSE MUSTACHE SHOULD COMPLETE MY "YITZAK TOPOL" DISGUISE...
LET'S GO.
AND REMEMBER-- FROM NOW ON, WE'RE REVOLUTIONARIES WITH COLORFUL AND CHECKERED PASTS...
KEEP IN MIND EVERY LAST DETAIL STREGLOV AND THE MOSSAD DRUMMED INTO OUR SKULLS.
HURRY-- HERE COME THE GUARDS
YOU SAW NOTHING EITHER?
NOT SO MUCH AS A SHADOW-- THE OTHERS MUST HAVE BEEN DRINKING!
I SAW SOMETHING, BUT NOT A "GHOST" IT WAS A WOMAN.
OH, NO--THAT'S HIM!
WHO?
I TRIED TO TELL YOU-- I STEPPED OUT OF THE SHADOWS TO LOOK FOR YOU, AND ONE OF THE GUARDS SAW ME!
I THINK THAT'S HIM-- THE ONE ROUGHING UP THE DRIVER!
WHERE IS RASHID? HE WAS TOLD NOT TO LEAVE THE TRUCK FOR ANY REASON!
HE--HE MUST HAVE JOINED IN THE CHASE FOR THAT-- THAT--
YES-- THE "PHANTOM" WHO FLEW THROUGH THE AIR! I HEARD ALL ABOUT IT-- FOOLS WHO CAN'T RECOGNIZE THE MOON THROUGH THE TREES! START THE TRUCK AND GET MOVING BEFORE THEY DRINK ANY MORE WINE AND THEY START SEEING ANGELS!

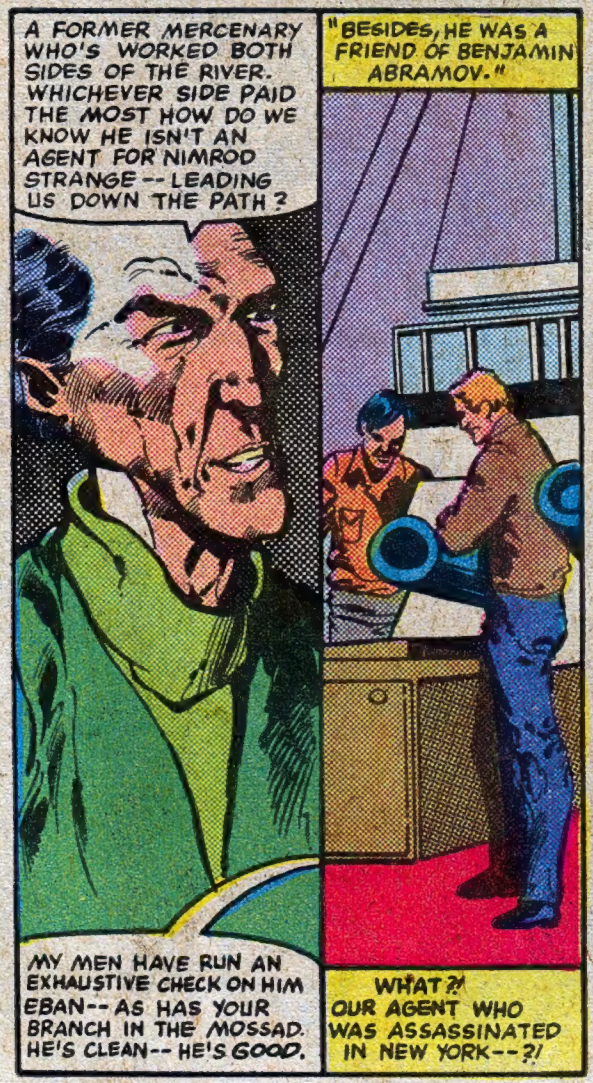
IF HE DID SEE YOU, MARLENE, HE DOESN'T SEEM TOO CONCERNED ABOUT IT.
JUST KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN WHEN WE BOARD THE PLANE AND EVERYTHING WILL BE--
GRN GRN
THE SICK SOUND FREEZES THEM IN DREAD.
IT WON'T START.
HAH! SOME "ARMY" WE ARE! CANNOT EVEN GET A FUNCTIONING TRUCK!
GRN
GNRR-GNR-RR
IF IT DOES NOT START, MARC...
I KNOW, FRENCHIE, THEY'LL MAKE US GET--
OUT OF THE TRUCK! QUICK-- YOU WILL HAVE WALK TO THE PLANE!
GNR
GNR RRNN
START, BLAST IT START!
YOU IN THE BACK-- WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?!
OUT-- NOW!


YOU HEARD ME! WHY ARE YOU--
G'NRRVROOM
WHEW.
I TELL YOU I SAW IT! A MAN DRESSED IN WHITE--LIKE A GHOST--FLYING THROUGH THE AIR! AND OTHERS SAW IT TOO!
OH? THEN WHERE ARE THEY!
I... I DON'T KNOW. THEY CHASED AFTER THE FIGURE--AND NEVER RETURNED!
ONTO THE PLANE--MOVE! DON'T LOOK AROUND!
HAH! PERHAPS THEY FOUND ANOTHER HIDDEN BOTTLE!
YOU--HALT!
HE'S SPOTTED MARLENE--OUR COVER'S BLOWN!
YOU--IN THE BLACK SHIRT WHAT'S YOUR NAME
MINE? YITZAK TOPOL--FORMER LIBYAN DOUBLE-AGENT STATIONED IN JERUSALEM.
I DON'T REMEMBER YOUR FACE...
BUT I SUPPOSE YOUR CREDENTIALS ARE IN ORDER--
--ALL RIGHT--GET ABOARD.

THE TRANSPORT PLANE LIFTS OFF WITH IT'S CARGO OF PASSENGERS, THREE OF THEM SUPREMELY RELIEVED.
DESTINATION: THE ISLAND TRAINING BASE OF THE THIRD WORLD ARMY COMMANDED BY NIMROD STRANGE.

AND AS DAWN BREAKS...
IF THE WATERS AROUND THE ISLAND ARE PATROLLED, WE'LL BE REACHING THE DANGER POINT IN TWENTY MINUTES, STREGLOV.
THEN CUT THE ENGINES AND WE'LL WAIT HERE.
WAIT FOR WHAT -- YOUR CIVILIAN JAMES BONDS TO GET THEMSELVES KILLED?

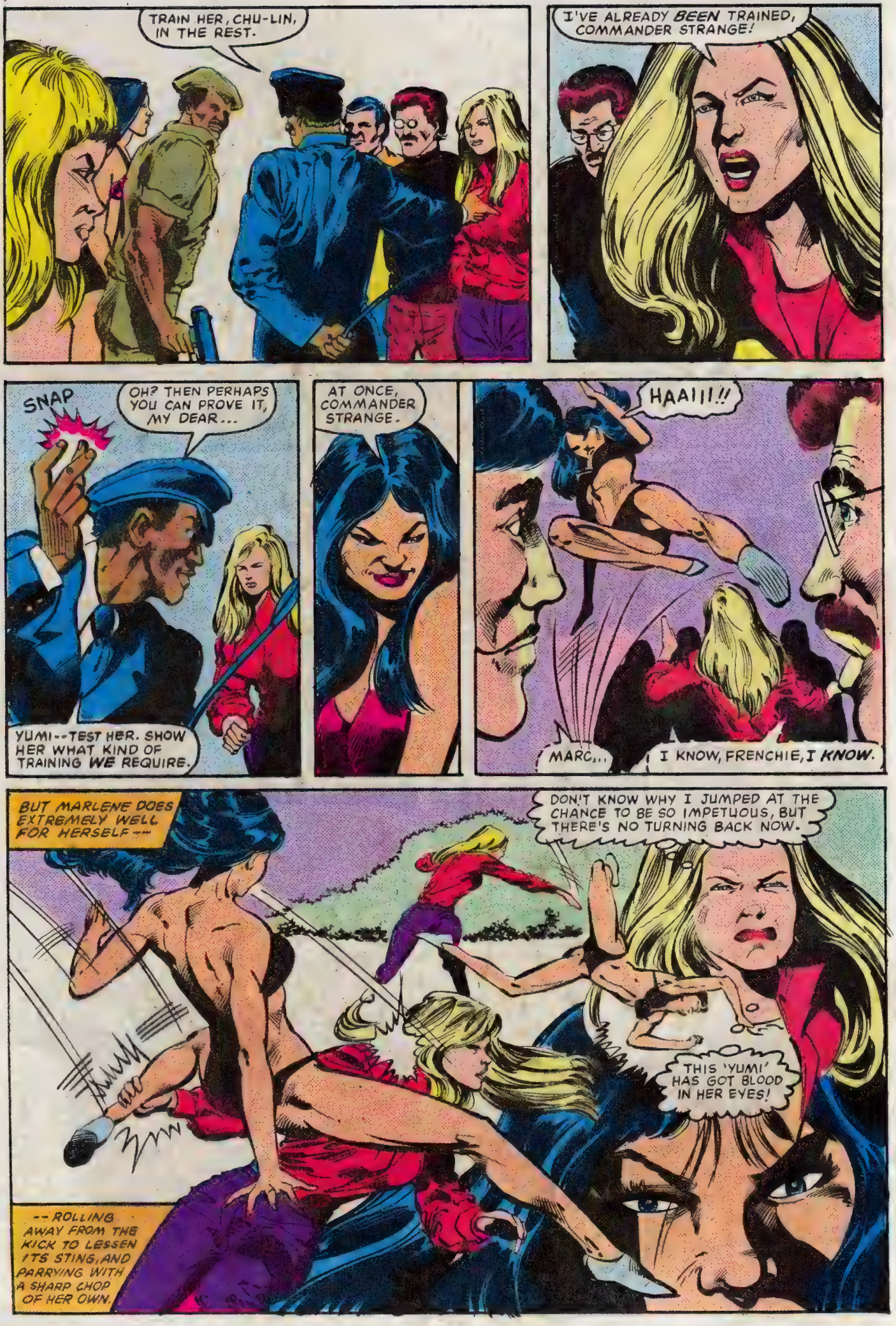

AND ONE OF THEM A WOMAN NO LESS!
PLEASE, EBAN -- SPECTOR ASSURED ME SHE IS BOTH CAPABLE AND COMPETENT.
YES STREGLOV, I KNOW, I KNOW. BUT JUST WHO IS THIS 'MARC SPECTOR' ANYWAY?

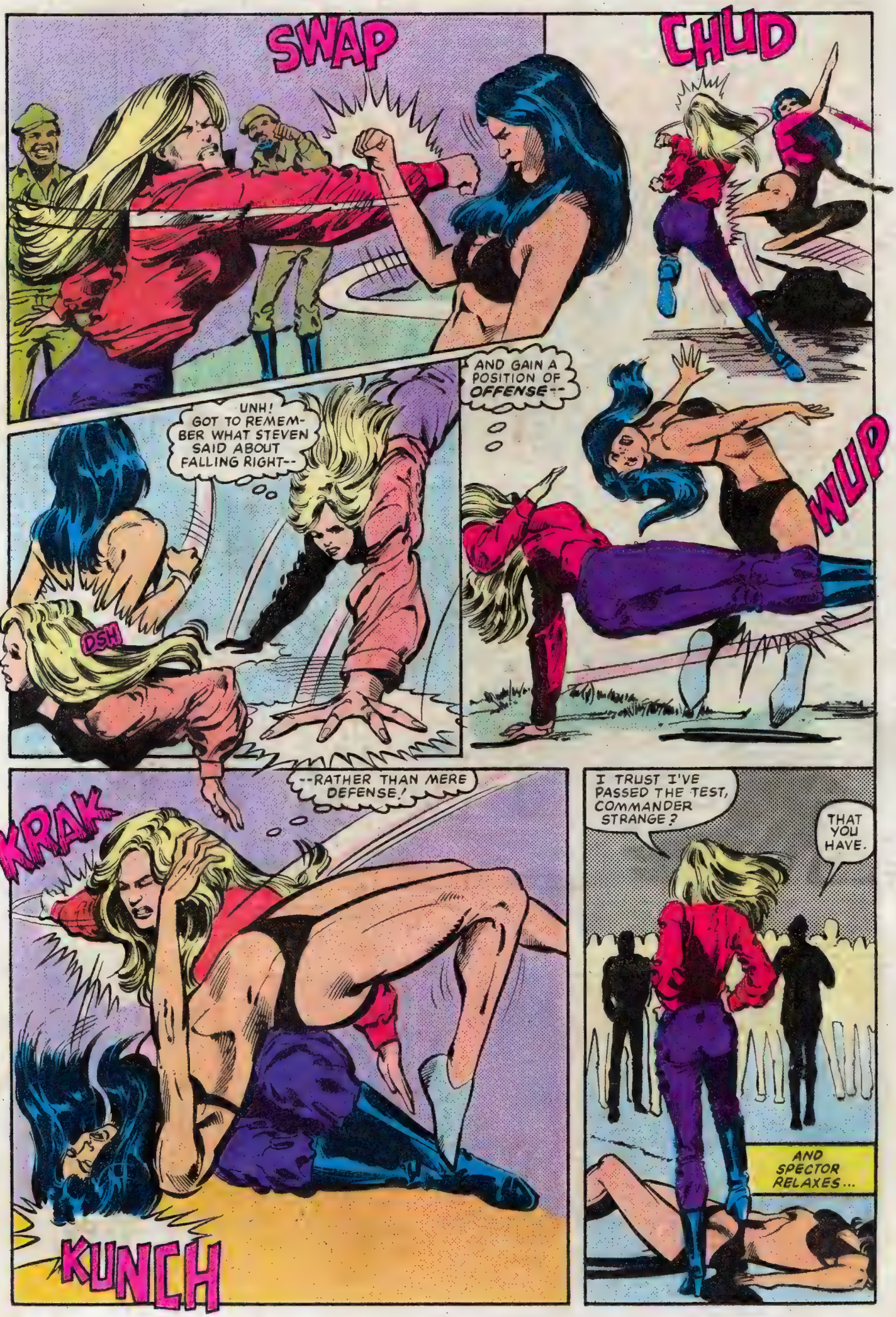

A FORMER MERCENARY WHO'S WORKED BOTH SIDES OF THE RIVER. WHICHEVER SIDE PAID THE MOST HOW DO WE KNOW HE ISN'T AN AGENT FOR NIMROD STRANGE -- LEADING US DOWN THE PATH?
MY MEN HAVE RUN AN EXHAUSTIVE CHECK ON HIM EBAN -- AS HAS YOUR BRANCH IN THE MOSSAD. HE'S CLEAN -- HE'S GOOD.
"BESIDES, HE WAS A FRIEND OF BENJAMIN ABRAMOV."
WHAT?! OUR AGENT WHO WAS ASSASSINATED IN NEW YORK -- ?!

YES, EBAN, BY STRANGE'S TOP MAN -- "MASTER SNIPER!"
I THOUGHT THEY TOLD YOU EVERYTHING.

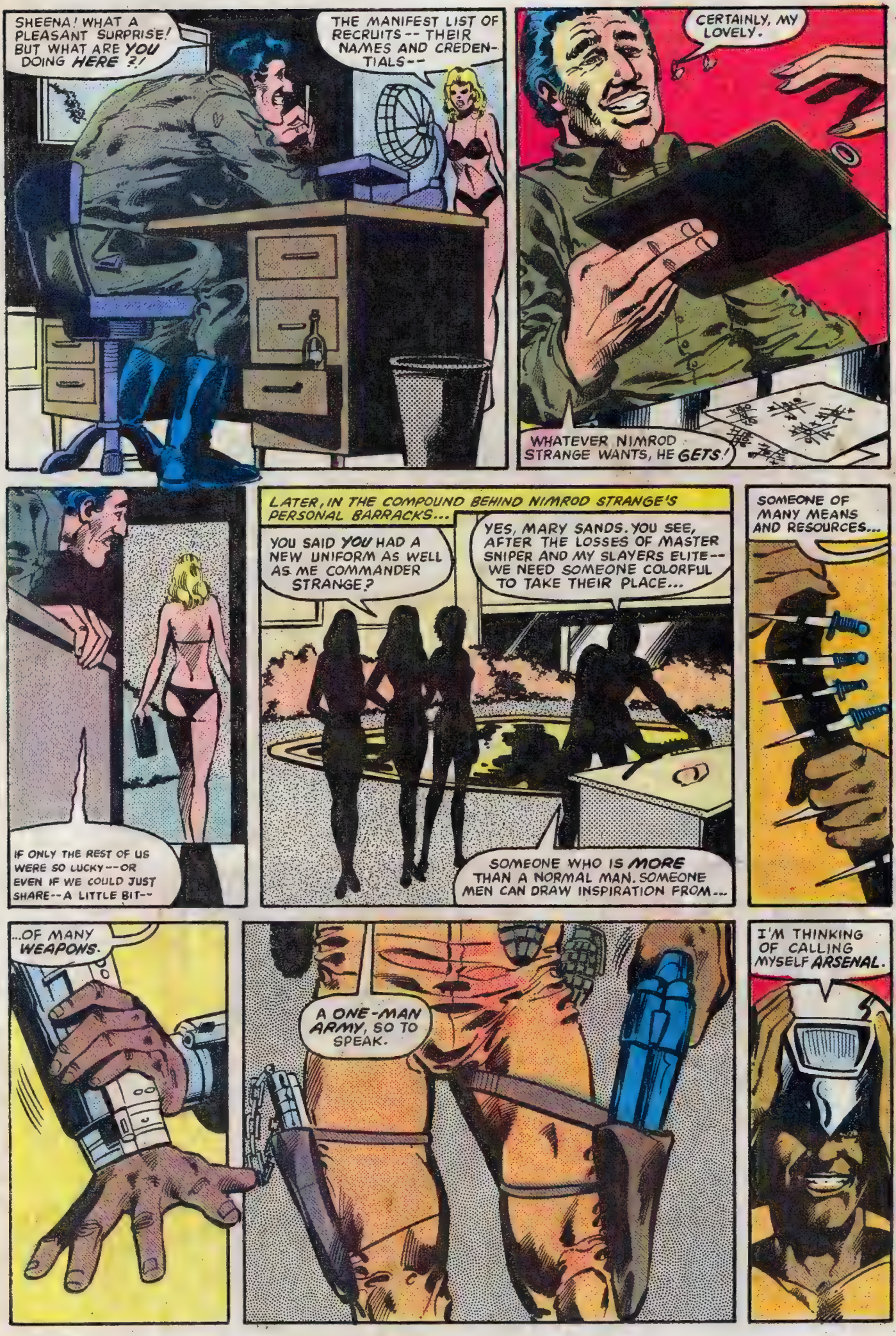
PERHAPS THEY DID NOT TELL ME EVERYTHING STREGLOV, BUT THEY DID TEACH ME ONE LESSON I HAVE LEARNED WELL -- EMOTION HAS NO PLACE IN AN OPERATION OF THIS KIND.
LET US HOPE THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN ABRAMOV AND SPECTOR WAS NOT TOO CLOSE...

DESTINATION REACHED: THE ISLAND OF NIMROD STRANGE.
AND AS THE TRANSPORT PLANE VEERS DOWN FOR A LANDING...
--THE RULER HIMSELF EMERGES IN FULL REGALIA FROM HIS PALATIAL BARRACKS
AN EXELLENT WORKOUT, MY LOVELIES.
NO MAN HAS EVER BEEN BLESSED WITH BETTER OR MORE BEAUTIFUL BODYGUARDS
BUT YOU, MY DEAR SHEENA -- I HAVE NOTED THREE TIMES NOW THAT YOU ARE GROWING TOO SLOW. I REALLY THINK YOU SHALL HAVE TO BE REPLACED.
AH! THE NEW RECRUITS ARE ARRIVING!
LET US REVIEW THEM, SHALL WE?
AND SO, AFTER THEY DISEMBARK...
AS YOU KNOW, OUR THIRD WORLD ARMY IS A COALITION OF LEFTIST AND RIGHTIST TERRORISTS.
WE OWE ALLIANCE TO NO ONE. WE ARE DEDICATED TO SMASHING EVERY GOVERNMENT ON EARTH.
WELCOME TO THE EMBODIMENT OF THAT IDEAL.
YOUR NAME?
FRANCOIS VALJEAN.
FORMER MEMBER OF ZEE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY, PAST CONNECTIONS WITH RADICAL GROUPS IN SYRIA AND ZEE SUDAN.
AND YOU, MY DEAR?
MARY SANDS.
AN AMERICAN! AND WHY DO YOU WISH TO JOIN OUR ARMY?
REVOLUTION. ANARCHY I WAS A MEMBER OF THE WEATHERMEN IN THE EARLY SEVENTIES.
A STUDENT BACK THEN, NO DOUBT, AND NOW YOU HAVE MATURED TO OUR LEVEL. EXCELLENT.
YOU ALREADY POSSESS MOST OF THE REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME ONE OF MY BODYGUARDS.


TRAIN HER, CHU-LIN, IN THE REST.
I'VE ALREADY BEEN TRAINED, COMMANDER STRANGE!
SNAP
OH? THEN PERHAPS YOU CAN PROVE IT, MY DEAR...
YUMI--TEST HER. SHOW HER WHAT KIND OF TRAINING WE REQUIRE.
AT ONCE, COMMANDER STRANGE.
HAA!!!!
MARC...
I KNOW, FRENCHIE, I KNOW.
BUT MARLENE DOES EXTREMELY WELL FOR HERSELF --
DON'T KNOW WHY I JUMPED AT THE CHANCE TO BE SO IMPETUOUS, BUT THERE'S NO TURNING BACK NOW.
THIS 'YUMI' HAS GOT BLOOD IN HER EYES!
--ROLLING AWAY FROM THE KICK TO LESSEN ITS STING, AND PARRYING WITH A SHARP CHOP OF HER OWN.


SWAP
CHUD
AND GAIN A POSITION OF OFFENSE--
UNH! GOT TO REMEMBER WHAT STEVEN SAID ABOUT FALLING RIGHT--
DSH
WUP
--RATHER THAN MERE DEFENSE!
KRAK
KUNCH
I TRUST I'VE PASSED THE TEST, COMMANDER STRANGE?
THAT YOU HAVE.
AND SPECTOR RELAXES...

HAH! YOU DO POSSESS ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE ONE OF MY BODYGUARDS, MARY SANDS...
INCLUDING YOUR LACK OF FALSE MODESTY AND AN EQUAL LACK OF BOASTING.
AND YOU, DEAR SHEENA, YOU CANNOT SAY THIS COMES WITHOUT WARNING...
YOU ARE DISMISSED FROM MY PERSONAL SERVICE, BUT YOU MAY JOIN THE OTHERS TO BE OUTFITTED FOR UNIFORMS.
AS FOR YOU, MY DEAR MARY SANDS--
WE HAVE A DIFFERENT KIND OF UNIFORM.
NOW COME--YOU MUST BE PREPARED FOR TONIGHT'S INITIATION.
I CAN IMAGINE, MARC, WHAT ZEE INITIATION WILL BE.
WELL, I'VE BEEN TELLING PEOPLE SHE CAN HANDLE HERSELF...
...LET'S JUST HOPE I WASN'T LYING.
THOSE TWO SEEM TO HAVE AN INORDINATE INTEREST IN THE WITCH. I WONDER WHY...? AND HER APPEARANCE HERE... AT THIS TIME...
IT'S TOO... PROPITIOUS... TOO MYSTERIOUS.
SOMEONE LIKE HER--SURELY WE WOULD HAVE HEARD OF HER BEFORE. AND SINCE WE HAVE NOT--
--I THINK IT'S TIME TO LEARN WHY.

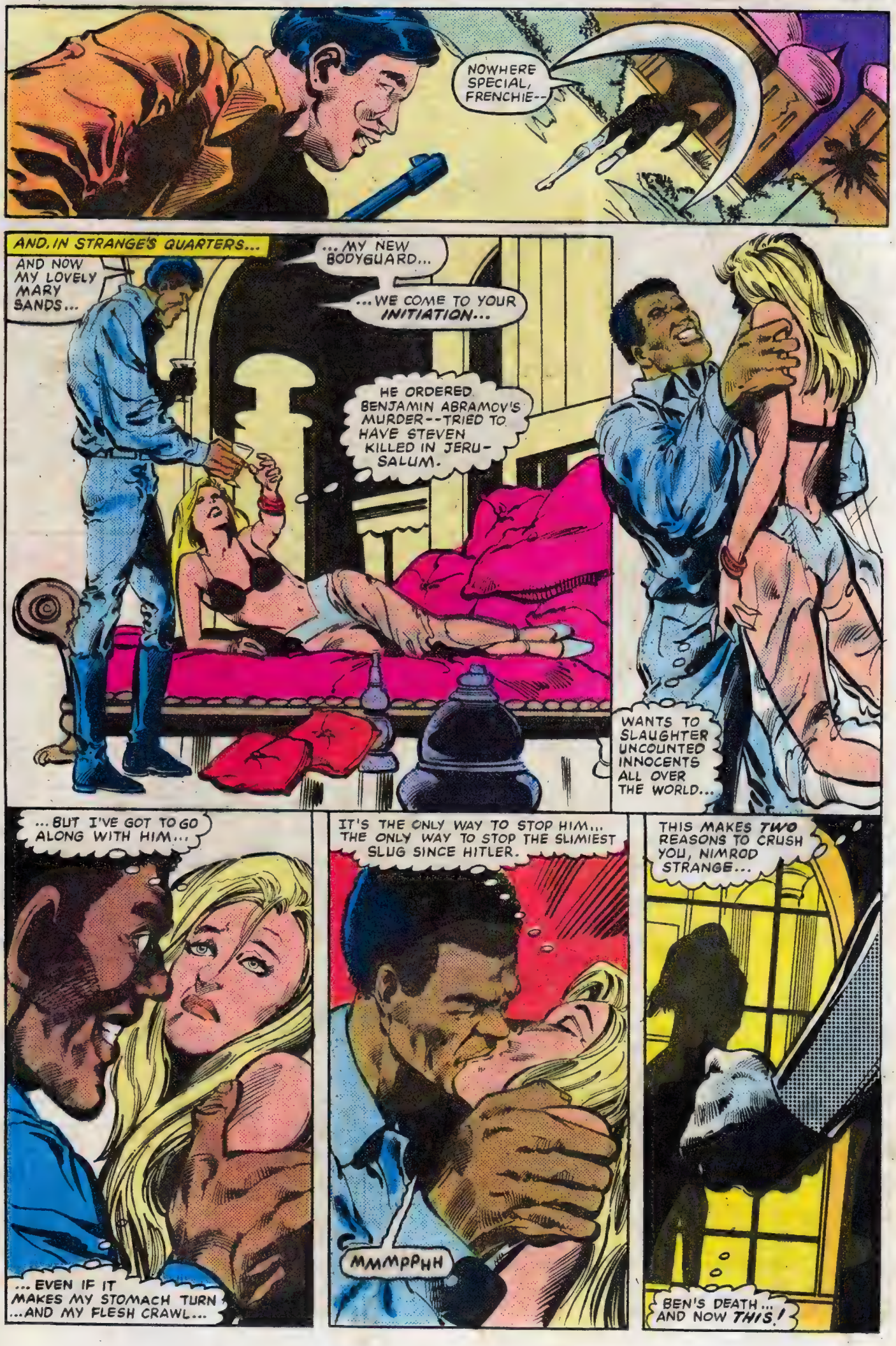

SHEENA! WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE! BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
THE MANIFEST LIST OF RECRUITS -- THEIR NAMES AND CREDENTIALS--
CERTAINLY, MY LOVELY.
WHATEVER NIMROD STRANGE WANTS, HE GETS!
IF ONLY THE REST OF US WERE SO LUCKY--OR EVEN IF WE COULD JUST SHARE--A LITTLE BIT--
LATER, IN THE COMPOUND BEHIND NIMROD STRANGE'S PERSONAL BARRACKS...
YOU SAID YOU HAD A NEW UNIFORM AS WELL AS ME COMMANDER STRANGE?
YES, MARY SANDS. YOU SEE, AFTER THE LOSSES OF MASTER SNIPER AND MY SLAYERS ELITE-- WE NEED SOMEONE COLORFUL TO TAKE THEIR PLACE...
SOMEONE WHO IS MORE THAN A NORMAL MAN. SOMEONE MEN CAN DRAW INSPIRATION FROM...
SOMEONE OF MANY MEANS AND RESOURCES...
...OF MANY WEAPONS.
A ONE-MAN ARMY, SO TO SPEAK.
I'M THINKING OF CALLING MYSELF ARSENAL.

WHAT DO YOU THINK, MY LOVELIES?
YOU...YOU LOOK QUITE FEARSOME, COMMANDER STRANGE, BUT IS IT EFFECTIVE?
VERY WELL, CHU-LIN-- PREPARE THE TARGETS.
THEN, TWO PARALLEL WALLS RISE TO FORM A GAUNTLET...
YOU HAVE PASSED YOUR TEST, MARY SANDS...
NOW IT IS TIME FOR THE FIRST TEST OF ARSENAL!
AH! THE FIRST TWO TARGETS-- POPPING UP AT RANDOM!
I HAVE MASTER SNIPER TO THANK FOR THIS DEVICE.
THREE MORE TARGETS!
AND ALL THREE ELIMINATED BY THE KNIFE-THROWING SKILL TAUGHT ME BY KAREESH-BEK!
CHU-LIN HIMSELF GAVE ME THE NUNCHAKS.
AND JOU-JOUBA TRAINED ME FOR PROFICIENCY WITH FIREARMS.
WHILE THE GARROT IS A DEVICE I PICKED UP FROM SUMO, THE LAST OF MY FALLEN SLAYERS ELITE.

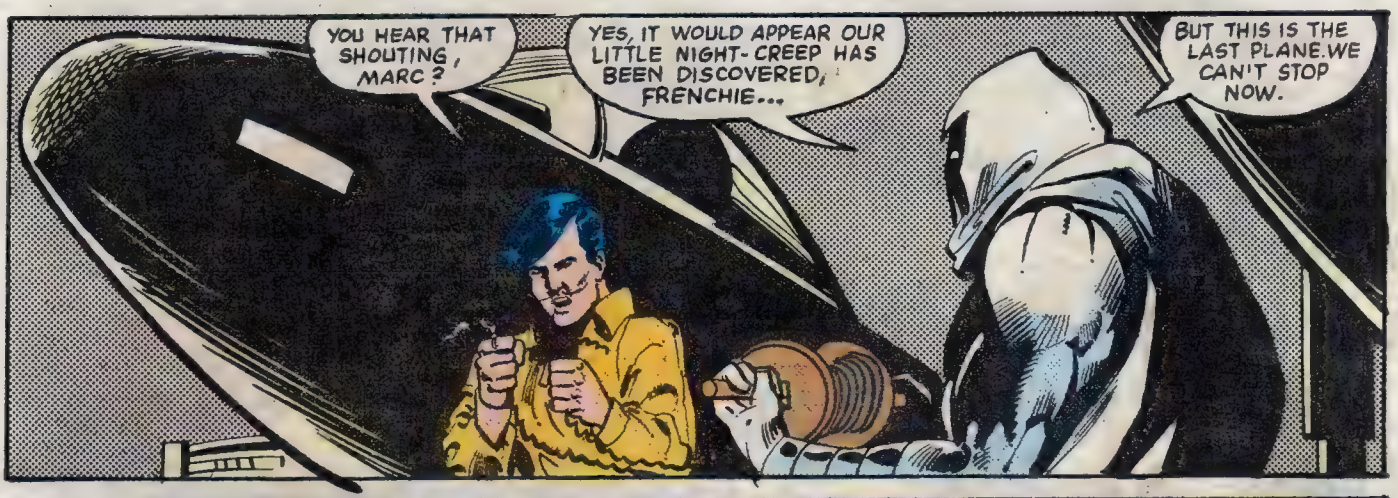
EH? THEN YOUR CUNNING KNOWS NO BOUNDS, CHU-LIN! YOU HAVE DEVISED A SUPREME FINAL TARGET FOR ME?!
BUT NO MATTER
PLIK
V-VOOOOOM
ARSENAL IS MORE THAN EQUAL TO THE TEST!
THEN HE'S SERIOUS ABOUT THIS 'ARSENAL'.
MAYBE, BUT IT'S MOSTLY FOR SHOW.
DON'T FOOL YOURSELF ASSIGI-- NO MAN NEEDS BODYGUARDS LESS THAN NIMROD STRANGE...
WELL MARY, I'D SAY IT WAS EFFECTIVE, WOULDN'T YOU?
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, MY LOVELIES, I HAVE A MEETING WITH MY LIEUTENANTS.
THE TRAINING OF THE NEW RECRUITS WILL BE COMPLETED IN TWO WEEKS, COMMANDER STRANGE, AND THEN THE WORLD SHALL SIT UP AND TAKE NOTICE OF THE THIRD WORLD ARMY! THINK OF IT-- SIMULTANEOUS RAIDS ON TOKYO, LEBANON, POLAND, PARIS, MADRID, ROME, BUENOS AIRES, SOUTH AFRICA--
DO NOT BE SO EAGER FOR RECOGNITION. OUR SUCCESS THUS FAR IS DUE ONLY TO THE FACT THAT THE WORLD HAS REFUSED TO TAKE US SERIOUSLY. ONLY THE ISRAELI MOSSAD CONSIDERS US A TRUE THREAT--AND THE TWO AMERICANS, MARC SPECTOR AND MOON KNIGHT.
FORTUNATLELY, THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT STILL LAUGHS AT US...

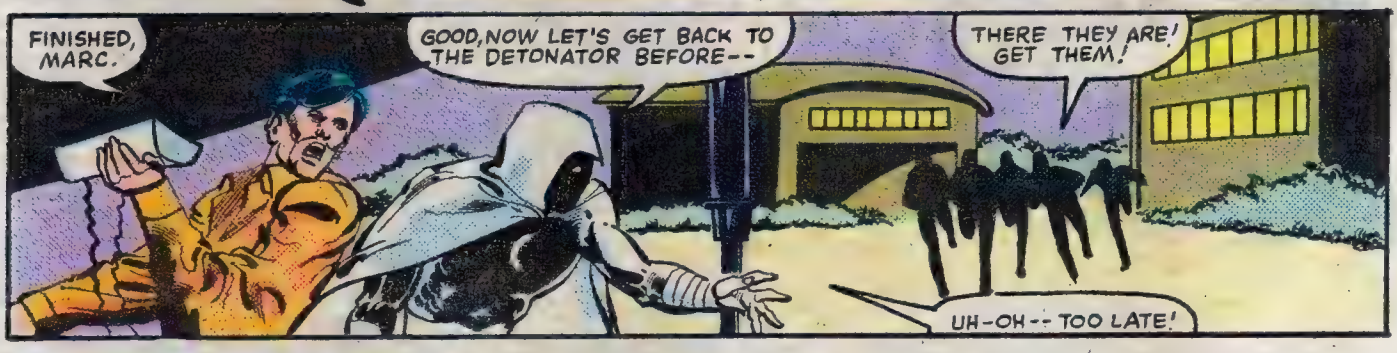
AND ONCE THEY ARE REELING IN SHOCK OVER OUR RAIDS ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD, THEY WILL BE TOO STUNNED AND INDECISIVE TO DEAL WITH OUR MAIN HIT...
MANHATTAN
...THE BLACKMAILING OF THE UNITED STATES HERE.
NIGHT...
YOUR BUNKS ARE IN THERE WAITING FOR YOU--LIGHTS OUT IMMEDIATLY--AND BELIEVE ME, YOU WILL NEED YOUR SLEEP FOR TOMORROW'S TRAINING MANEUVERS!
28, 29, 30...
...31,32,33! BUT THERE ARE ONLY THIRTY ON THE MANIFEST! AND NO MARY SANDS AMONG THEM--NO WOMAN LISTED AT ALL!
JUST AS I THOUGHT--THE WITCH AND HER TWO BOYFRIENDS ARE INFILTRATORS! SPIES!
INSIDE THE BARRACKS
TIME TO CHANGE TO MOON KNIGHT AND HIT THE SHADOWS, FRENCHIE.
OUI, MARC, AND HOPE WE CAN SLIP PAST ZEE GUARD.
THEY DO...

YOU GO THAT WAY, FRENCHIE-- TRY TO CHECK OUT THE PLANES.
I'LL TAKE THE OTHER HALF OF THE COMPOUND AND SEE IF I CAN LOCATE THE WEAPONS DUMP.
AT LEAST ZEE PLANES ARE CLOSE TOGETHER...
GOOD-- ZEE FIRST ONE'S GAS TANK IS FULL.
EUREKA.
WEAPONS GALORE.
SO FAR, SO GOOD.
NOW FOR ZEE LAST PLANE.
I'LL SAVE ONE FOR FRENCHIE--
--AND REMOVE THE FIRING PINS FROM THE REST.
YES--GAS IN ZEE LAST ONE TOO. OUR PLAN JUST MIGHT WORK!
THERE ARE ENOUGH BOMBS AND SHELLS IN THERE TO BLOW UP HALF THE ISLAND, AND THERE IS HARDLY ENOUGH TIME TO SABOTAGE EVERYTHING...
STILL, LET'S HOPE I GOT ENOUGH OF THEM
HERE FRENCHIE--A PRESENT. CHECK OUT SOME OF THE OTHER BUILDINGS.
OUI, MARC -- BUT WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

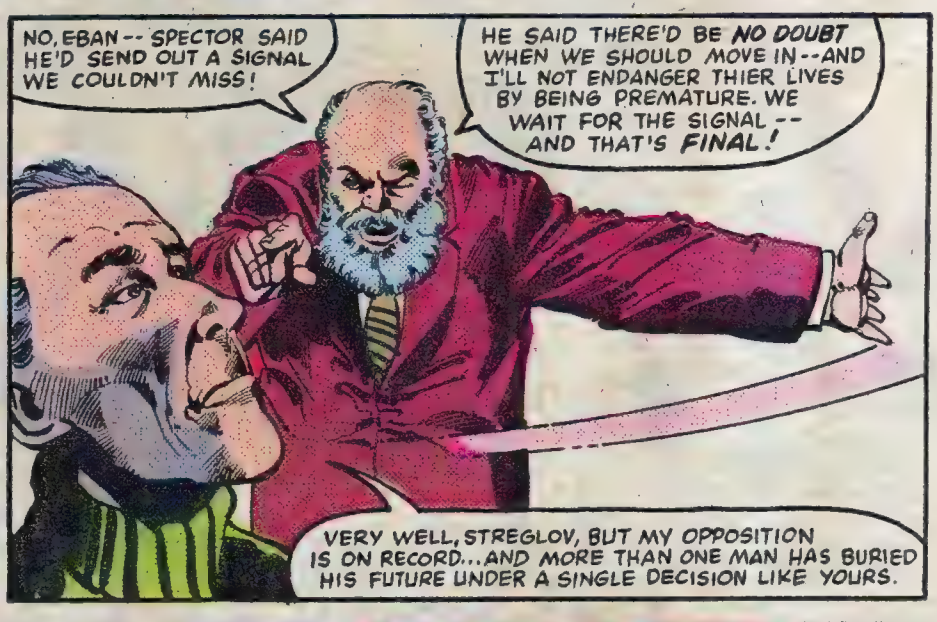

NOWHERE SPECIAL, FRENCHIE--
AND, IN STRANGE'S QUARTERS...
AND NOW MY LOVELY MARY SANDS...
...MY NEW BODYGUARD...
...WE COME TO YOUR INITIATION...
HE ORDERED BENJAMIN ABRAMOV'S MURDER--TRIED TO HAVE STEVEN KILLED IN JERUSALUM.
WANTS TO SLAUGHTER UNCOUNTED INNOCENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD...
...BUT I'VE GOT TO GO ALONG WITH HIM...
...EVEN IF IT MAKES MY STOMACH TURN ...AND MY FLESH CRAWL...
IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO STOP HIM... THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THE SLIMIEST SLUG SINCE HITLER.
MMMPPHH
THIS MAKES TWO REASONS TO CRUSH YOU, NIMROD STRANGE...
BEN'S DEATH... AND NOW THIS!

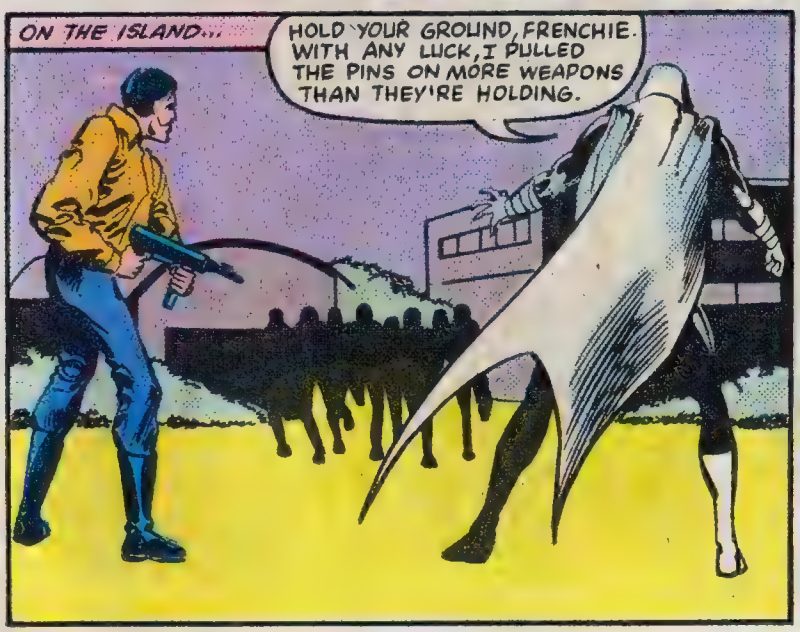
ENOUGH'S ENOUGH!
FRENCHIE DOESN'T KNOW IT YET, BUT WE'RE STARTING OUR PLAN EARLY--
THUD
"--LIKE RIGHT NOW!"
COME ON FRENCHIE--TIME TO RIG THE BOMBS UNDER THE PLANES!
OUI, MARC, ALL BUT ONE OF THEM.
RIGHT--THE ONE I NEED TO WIPE THIS ISLAND OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH!
AT THE ENTRANCE TO STRANGE'S PRIVATE BARRACKS...
BUT I MUST SEE HIM NOW, CHU-LIN! I HAVE VITAL NEWS!
HE CANNOT BE DISTURBED NOW. IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY SHEENA, TELL ME.
THERE ARE TWO INFILTRATORS AMONG THE NEW RECRUITS! THE MANIFEST PROVES IT!
WHAT?! STAY HERE, SHEENA--SEE THAT NO ONE ENTERS! I WILL CHECK THE RECRUITS' BARRACKS!
BUT, AFTER CHU-LIN HAS DISAPPEARED ACROSS THE COMPOUND...
...SHEENA, SMILING CRUELLY, ENTERS THE GATE HERSELF...
DID I NEGLECT TO MENTION THE THIRD INFILTRATOR CHU-LIN? THE ONE I MUST DEAL WITH MYSELF? I'M SO SORRY.
AT THE BARRACKS...
TWO EMPTY BUNKS! THEN IT IS TRUE!
EVERYONE UP!
GET WEAPONS!


YOU HEAR THAT SHOUTING, MARC?
YES, IT WOULD APPEAR OUR LITTLE NIGHT-CREEP HAS BEEN DISCOVERED, FRENCHIE...
BUT THIS IS THE LAST PLANE. WE CAN'T STOP NOW.


FINISHED, MARC.
GOOD, NOW LET'S GET BACK TO THE DETONATOR BEFORE--
THERE THEY ARE! GET THEM!
UH-OH -- TOO LATE!

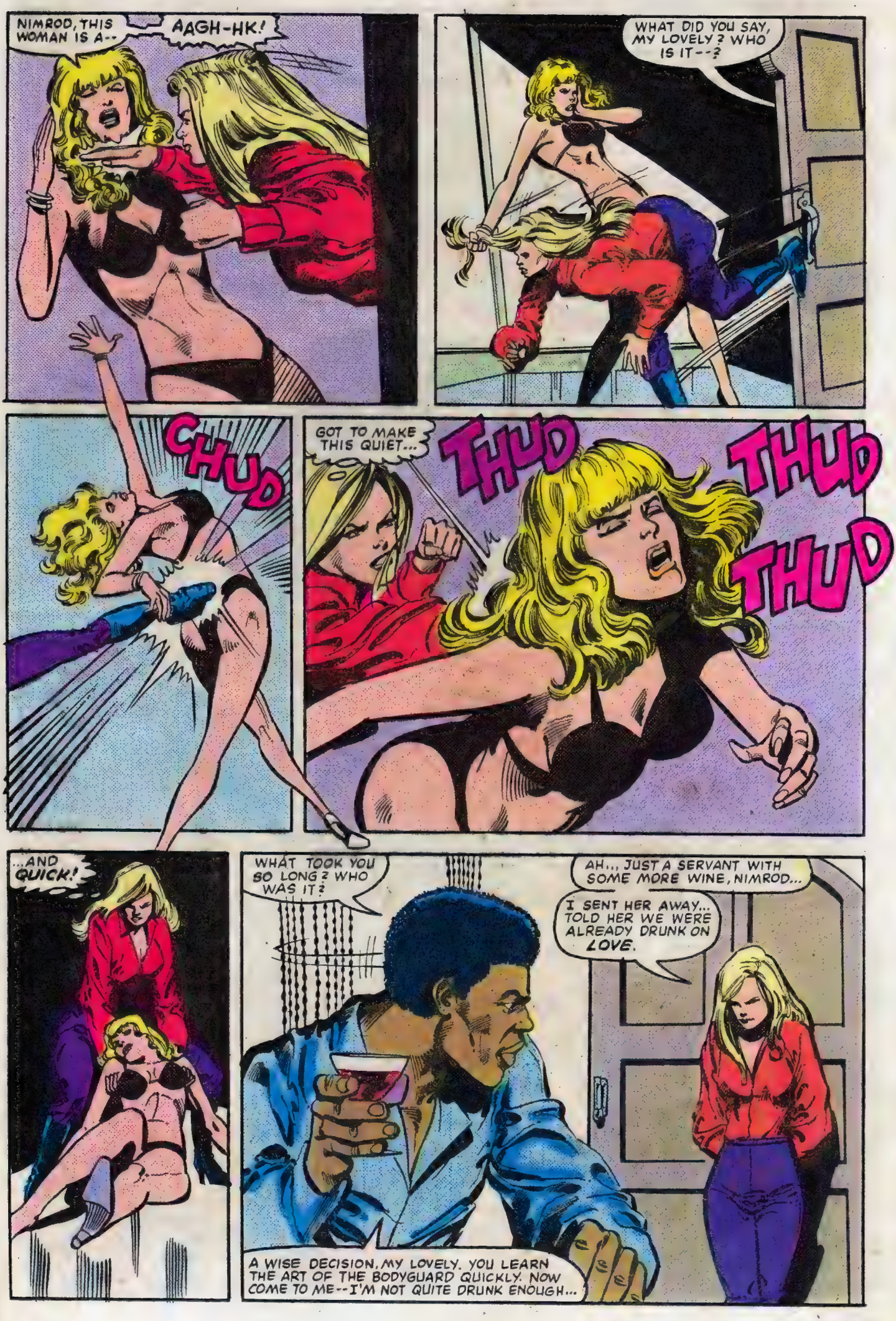
AND OUT AT OPEN SEA, JUST BEYOND SIGHT OF ISLAND STRANGE.
I DON'T LIKE IT, STREGLOV.
IT'S TAKING TOO LONG -- I SAY WE MOVE ON THE ISLAND--NOW!

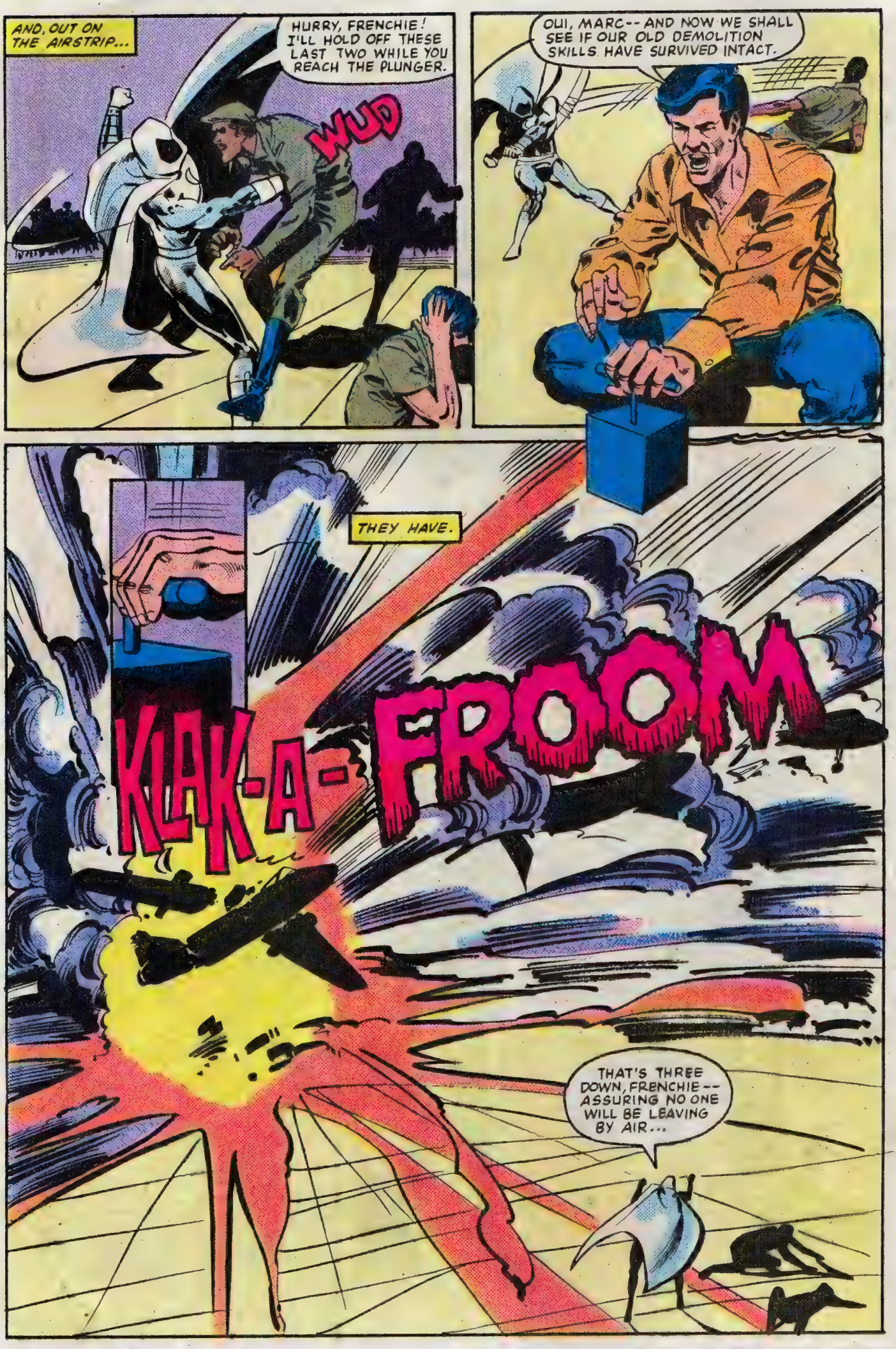

NO, EBAN -- SPECTOR SAID HE'D SEND OUT A SIGNAL WE COULDN'T MISS!
HE SAID THERE'D BE NO DOUBT WHEN WE SHOULD MOVE IN -- AND I'LL NOT ENDANGER THIER LIVES BY BEING PREMATURE. WE WAIT FOR THE SIGNAL -- AND THAT'S FINAL!
VERY WELL, STREGLOV, BUT MY OPPOSITION IS ON RECORD... AND MORE THAN ONE MAN HAS BURIED HIS FUTURE UNDER A SINGLE DECISION LIKE YOURS.


ON THE ISLAND...
HOLD YOUR GROUND, FRENCHIE. WITH ANY LUCK, I PULLED THE PINS ON MORE WEAPONS THAN THEY'RE HOLDING.

KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
W-WHAT?!

WELL, WELL -- IT SEEMS OUR LUCK IS HOLDING
CHUD
SWOK
OUI, MARC, AND WITH A LITTLE MORE OF IT, PERHAPS WE CAN STILL CUT A PATH TO ZEE DETONATOR!
BUT IN NIMROD STRANGE'S PRIVATE QUARTERS...
THE DOOR! AND SINCE I TOLD THOSE FOOLS I WAS NOT TO BE DISTURBED, IT MUST BE URGENT! SEE WHO IT IS, MY LOVELY.
NOK NOK
OF COURSE, COMMANDER STRANGE.
WHO IS --
YOU.
YES, WITCH... I'VE COME TO SHATTER YOUR SPELL.

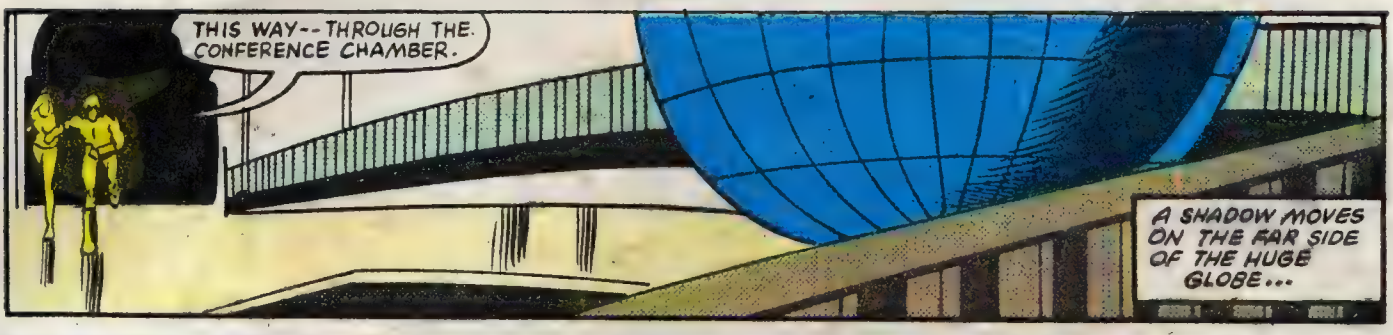

NIMROD, THIS WOMAN IS A--
AAGH-HK!
WHAT DID YOU SAY, MY LOVELY? WHO IS IT--?
CHUD
GOT TO MAKE THIS QUIET...
THUD
THUD
THUD
...AND QUICK!
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG? WHO WAS IT?
AH.., JUST A SERVANT WITH SOME MORE WINE, NIMROD...
I SENT HER AWAY... TOLD HER WE WERE ALREADY DRUNK ON LOVE.
A WISE DECISION, MY LOVELY. YOU LEARN THE ART OF THE BODYGUARD QUICKLY. NOW COME TO ME--I'M NOT QUITE DRUNK ENOUGH...


AND, OUT ON THE AIRSTRIP...
HURRY, FRENCHIE! I'LL HOLD OFF THESE LAST TWO WHILE YOU REACH THE PLUNGER.
WUD
OUI, MARC-- AND NOW WE SHALL SEE IF OUR OLD DEMOLITION SKILLS HAVE SURVIVED INTACT.
THEY HAVE.
KLAK-A-FROOM
THAT'S THREE DOWN, FRENCHIE -- ASSURING NO ONE WILL BE LEAVING BY AIR...

NOW LET'S GET TO THE FOURTH AND LAST PLANE --TO DESTROY THE ARMORY AND SET OFF STREGLOV'S SIGNAL!
OUI, BUT NOW THAT ZEE ALARM HAS BEEN SOUNDED, NOT TO MENTION ZEE EXPLOSIONS--
--I THINK WE SHOULD HURRY.
AT THE SOUND OF THE THREE BLASTS, THE FOUL TASTE OF STRANGE'S KISS IS WRENCHED AWAY...
THOSE EXPLOSIONS! SOMETHING IS WRONG --I AUTHORIZED NO NIGHT SHELLING PRACTICE!
COMMANDER STRANGE! INFILTRATORS DESTROYED THREE OF THE PLANES!
WHAT?! AND THE FOURTH PLANE?
IT'S DOWN FOR MAINTENANCE!
THEN WE MUST USE THE HIDDEN MOTOR-LAUNCH TO LEAVE THE ISLAND AT ONCE!
GET MY OTHER BODYGUARDS, CHU-LIN!
AND TELL NO ONE ELSE ABOUT THE LAUNCH!
AT THE FOURTH PLANE...
HURRY MARC! THEY ARE ALL AWAKE NOW! START ZEE PLANE!
GNR-R-R
NOT AGAIN!
ZEE CLIP, MARC --SHE IS RUNNING SHORT AND THERE ARE TOO MANY FOR ZEE BULLETS REMAINING!
BBRRTT
I'M TRYING FRENCHIE--BUT THEIR PLANES ARE JUST AS BAD AS THEIR TRUCKS!

AND ZEE CLIP IS OUT! IF ZEE PLANE DOES NOT CATCH SOON--
CHOKKA VRAOWW CHOKKA-POKPOK
STILL SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE ENGINE--
RROOAR
--BUT NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT IT BEING SKYWORTHY NOW. AT LEAST IT MOVES.
RRRRRRRRR
AND THE TERRORISTS SCATTER, PERMITTING FRENCHIE TO FLEE.
MOON KNIGHT YANKS ON THE STICK, PILOTING THE WOBBLY CRAFT INTO A STEEP CLIMB...
--AND DIVES!
THE FOOL! HE'S MAKING A SUICIDE DIVE!
RUN!
BUT AT THE LAST POSSIBLE MOMENT...
HERE'S WHERE I GET OFF--
--AND TRUST TO THE WIND AND MY GLIDER-CAPE!
THEN, AT THE APOGEE, DIRECTLY OVER THE HEART OF THE ISLAND, HE LOOPS--
THE SCREAMING PLANE CONTINUES ITS DIVE, AUTOMATIC PILOT LOCKED ON ITS TARGET...

THE TARGET IS THE WEAPONS' ARMORY. AS WELL AS GUNS, IT IS STOCKPILED WITH GRENADES, DYNAMITE, GELIGNITE BOMBS, SURFACE TO AIR MISSILES, AND ARTILLERY SHELLS.
THE HIT IS DIRECT. AS WELL AS THE ARMORY, IT CONSUMES HALF OF THE SURROUNDING ISLAND---
BOOM
... AS MOON KNIGHT'S GLIDER-CAPE SCOOPS THE NIGHT WIND, CARRYING HIM SAFELY BEYOND THE CATACLYSMIC BLAST.
NOW TO BEARD STRANGE HIMSELF-- IN HIS PALATIAL DEN.
AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE MOSSAD GUNBOAT...
THATS SPECTOR'S SIGNAL--IT MUST BE!
I TOLD YOU I HEARD THREE SMALLER EXPLOSIONS EARLIER, STREGLOV.
MOVE IN ON THE ISLAND--FULL SPEED AHEAD
NIMROD STRANGE IS NOW LOST TO MADNESS, DROWNING IN THE TWISTED IDEAL HE CALLS ARSENAL...
QUICKLY, MARY SANDS --OUT THE BACK.
CHU-LIN IS PREPARING THE MOTOR-LAUNCH.
STEVEN'S MAKING HIS MOVE --BUT IF I MAKE MY OWN MOVE PREMATURELY, I COULD RUIN EVERYTHING! GOT TO PLAY ALONG WITH HIM FOR THE TIME BEING--

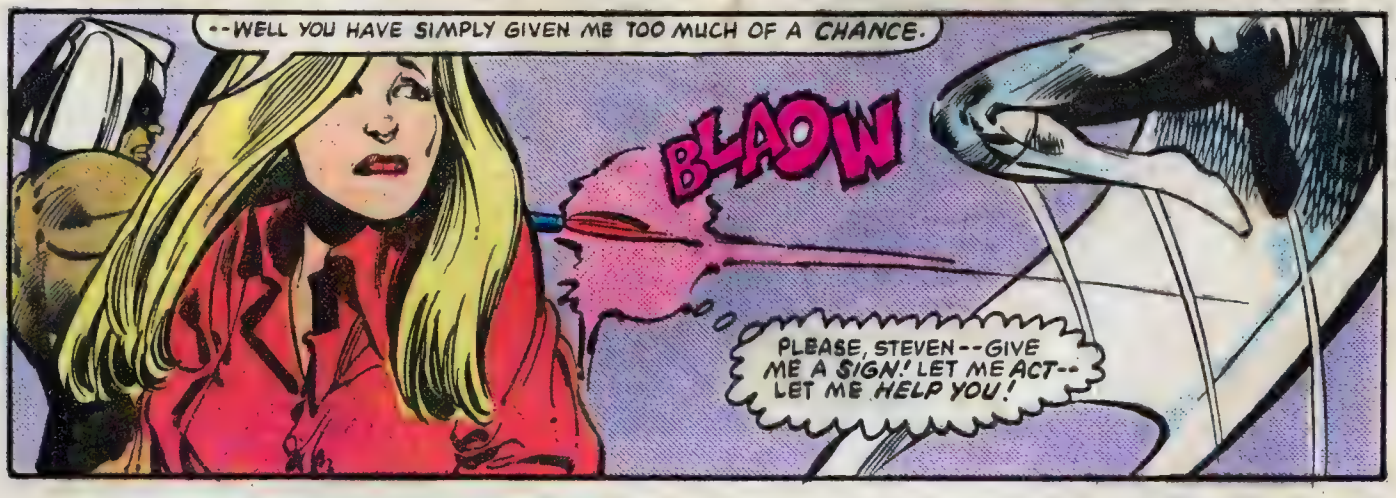

THIS WAY--THROUGH THE CONFERENCE CHAMBER.
A SHADOW MOVES ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE HUGE GLOBE...

HOLD IT, STRANGE.
HUH--?!
YOUR SHIP'S SINKING--
--BUT THE RAT STOPS RIGHT HERE!
MOON KNIGHT!

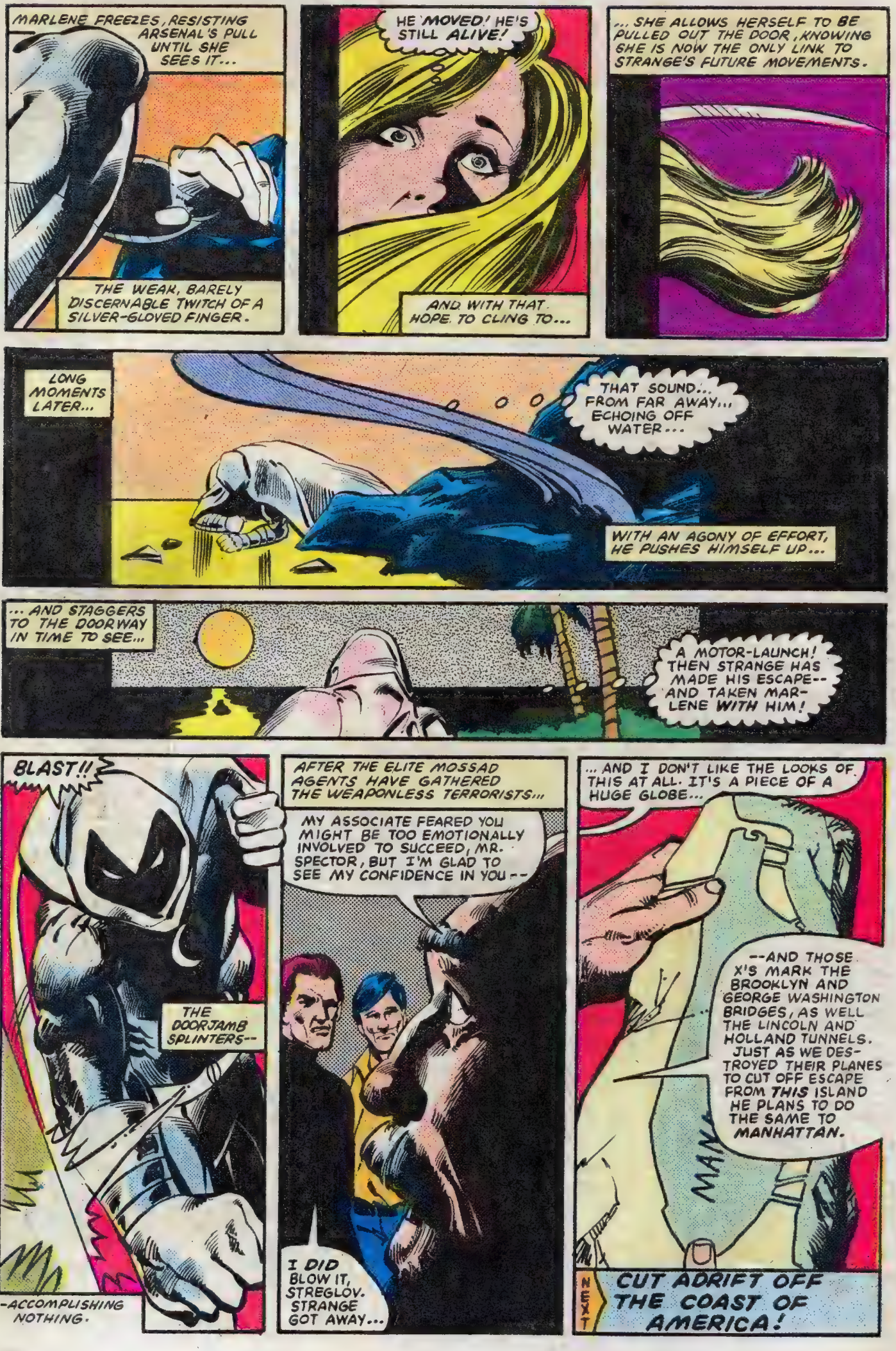
YOU KILLED MY OLDEST FREIND--AMONG OTHER THINGS YOU'VE DONE TO ME AND MINE.
I'M HERE TO AVENGE THOSE THINGS.
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO PAY, STRANGE.

YOU MUST LEARN MY NEW NAME, MOON KNIGHT--
I AM NOW ARSENAL --A ONE MAN ARMY.

AND YOU MUST LEARN NOT TO BE SO IMPETUOUS--I HAD EXPECTED MORE PROFESSIONALISM FROM YOU.
HAD YOU BETTER CHOSEN YOUR MOMENT, YOU MIGHT HAVE INDEED ENDED MY CARBER, BUT AS IT IS--STOPPING TO DELIVER YOUR PRETTY LITTLE SPEECH--


--WELL YOU HAVE SIMPLY GIVEN ME TOO MUCH OF A CHANCE.
BLAOW
PLEASE, STEVEN--GIVE ME A SIGN! LET ME ACT--LET ME HELP YOU!

HE'S UNREAL--FAR WORSE THAN MASTER SNIPER!
HE REALLY IS A ONE-MAN ARMY!
AND NOW, MY ENEMY--
--I WEARY OF THE GAME!
THE GENADE! IT'S GOING TO--
SWAK
NO--HE DEFLECTED IT WITH A CRESCENT-DART.
NOW'S MY CHANCE TO TACKLE STRANGE AND--
BUT THE GRENADE IS STILL LIVE AS IT SMACKS INTO THE GIGANTIC GLOBE...
...AND THE WHOLE WORLD COMES APART AT THE SEEMS!
STEVEN--! HE WAS HIT BY THE SHOCKWAVE! THE FLYING DEBRIS!
HE--HE'S NOT MOVING!
COME, MY LOVELY BODYGUARD--YOU NEED HESITATE NO LONGER...
MOON KNIGHT, I ASSURE YOU IS IN NO CONDITION TO ENDANGER ME FURTHER.


MARLENE FREEZES, RESISTING ARSENAL'S PULL UNTIL SHE SEES IT...
THE WEAK, BARELY DISCERNABLE TWITCH OF A SILVER-GLOVED FINGER.
HE MOVED! HE'S STILL ALIVE!
AND WITH THAT HOPE TO CLING TO...
... SHE ALLOWS HERSELF TO BE PULLED OUT THE DOOR, KNOWING SHE IS NOW THE ONLY LINK TO STRANGE'S FUTURE MOVEMENTS.
LONG MOMENTS LATER...
THAT SOUND... FROM FAR AWAY... ECHOING OFF WATER...
WITH AN AGONY OF EFFORT, HE PUSHES HIMSELF UP...
... AND STAGGERS TO THE DOORWAY IN TIME TO SEE...
A MOTOR-LAUNCH! THEN STRANGE HAS MADE HIS ESCAPE-- AND TAKEN MARLENE WITH HIM!
BLAST!!
THE DOORJAMB SPLINTERS--
--ACCOMPLISHING NOTHING.
AFTER THE ELITE MOSSAD AGENTS HAVE GATHERED THE WEAPONLESS TERRORISTS...
MY ASSOCIATE FEARED YOU MIGHT BE TOO EMOTIONALLY INVOLVED TO SUCCEED, MR. SPECTOR, BUT I'M GLAD TO SEE MY CONFIDENCE IN YOU--
I DID BLOW IT, STREGLOV. STRANGE GOT AWAY...
... AND I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THIS AT ALL. IT'S A PIECE OF A HUGE GLOBE...
--AND THOSE X'S MARK THE BROOKLYN AND GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGES, AS WELL THE LINCOLN AND HOLLAND TUNNELS. JUST AS WE DESTROYED THEIR PLANES TO CUT OFF ESCAPE FROM THIS ISLAND HE PLANS TO DO THE SAME TO MANHATTAN.
NEXT
CUT ADRIFT OFF THE COAST OF AMERICA!

KNIGHT MAIL

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

DENNIS O'NEIL
EDITOR
RALPH MACCHIO
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Doug, Bill, and Denny,

I'm sure MOON KNIGHT #15 was meant to be poignant, but it has become far more than that. By appearing immediately after the assassination of Anwar Sadat it has been made disturbingly relevant. Your portrayal of Gwenn and his twisted hate for anyone different from himself was very authentic, to the point of frightening realism. It's a pity there aren't any Moon Knights in our world to protect us from all the Sgt. Gwenns...and from ourselves.

Thank you for giving me an introspective look at myself, the world, and the people around me. I honestly think I'm a better person after reading "Ruling the World from His Basement." If everyone read this story, the world would probably be a better place. I assure you, MK #15 will not be forgotten for a long time to come. Peace...

Stu Krull
28 Kettle Creek Rd
Freehold, NJ 07728

Moon Knight Armorers:

As crazy as it sounds, I'd read all the way to the preface of the letters page before realizing that this issue was indeed free of the usual and annoying ads. Gents, I had to go through it again, page by delectable page, before it actually sank in: THERE WERE NO INTERNAL ADS!! This I like indeed! Did I fail to notice at first because I'm blind — or was the story simply that engrossing? (Well, we both know the answer to that, don't we?) I'd shell out 75¢ for a mag like this any day of the week!

First off, I'm gonna jaw at Doug Moench: Moench, there are no words to adequately describe your high class and style — but then, since you're the crackerjack genius responsible for *Weirdworld*, I expect nothing *but* high class and style from you. Maintain this type of suspenseful writing and I just may develop ulcers trying to survive the tension.

Now for Bill Sienkiewicz; Sienkiewicz, I would probably darken Marvel's doorstep packing a 250 infra-caliber heavy assault laser bazooka if your replacement on this book was ever announced. Still, I got one beef — your work doesn't have enough backgrounds. Hold it; let me rescind that. This latest issue, on third look, is substantially better in the backgrounds department. Exceptions are page 10, panels 3 and 7, and the fight scenes. I enjoy the heck out of your backgrounds when you do 'em, so c'mon, let us see more of the lunar Camelot our Moon Knight jousts in, okay?

Now a handful of suggestions:

1) Full characterizations of the supporting cast — believe me, you'll have a hero with all the inherent complexities of the human race and characters more "human" than any of us real folks could ever hope to be. (Aside: Marlene has beautiful long blonde hair; let's see variations in hairstyles capitalizing on this.)

2) So Moon Knight has four separate identities, huh? And a martial arts training, eh? And he even has a weapon patterned after nunchaks, no? So how about tossing the perfect villain at him — a multi-masquerading ninja, Eric Van Lustbadder style? If done right — stretched out over 3 or 4 isues — you'll catapult every fan straight into Moon Knight nirvana, screaming for more.

3) As for the yacht idea proposed in the letters page by Mr. Cowley, I say definitely yes! It would be even more ostentatious than the mansion is!

In parting, I'd just like to say that you're a bunch of darn good people. The complimentary subscription to Mr. Einar Haaseth of Alaska really touched my heart.

So, till the next full moon's rising, I bid you Pax vobiscum. Growth is progress; continue to grow.

Tracy-LaRoy Birdine
5957¼ West Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90043

Hello to the Moon Knight crew,

I really, really liked the full-length, ad-less issue of MOON KNIGHT, #15. Being a computer operator on the third — or "graveyard" — shift, I can easily relate to the strange, moody atmosphere often sketched out in MOON KNIGHT, and have many times read his exploits at three A.M. or so.

If you can maintain this expanded version, all the better. But personally, I don't really need special features or more letters. They're interesting, sure, but I'd prefer a longer, fuller story. And other than the extra length and features, I'm not clear to what extent your "new" version will be different. I mean, Moon Knight himself is so new to begin with. But the elimination of ads is very nice, though I doubt your ability to keep them out. Financially, that is.

Leonard Cowley's suggestion of moving Moon Knight's HQ to a yacht is a good one. The East Coast is already a mite too overpopulated with superheroes. One would think that the crime syndicates, supervillains and eccentric criminals would be wary of conducting their operations in such a high risk area and move to more lucrative pastures. Up until now, Spider-Woman has been my only relief from the East Coast.

Tom Coppinger
7721 Emerson Ave. S. #5B
Richfield, MN 55423

Try THOR, Tom — he just moved to Chicago.

Our format is by no means set. The back-up stories and features will vary, and will give way from time to time, enabling us to present longer, in-depth lead stories.

Dear Denny,

Doug and Bill have scored another triumph with MOON KNIGHT #15. "Ruling the World from His Basement" was as fine an effort as I've ever seen from this extremely creative and versatile team.

Moon Knight has taken over the top spot as far as "creatures of the night" heroes go, topping even the Batman in my opinion for mood and excitement. Denny, I never thought anything could top your and Neal Adams' Batman/Ra's Al Ghul confrontations of a few years back, but Bill and Doug have done it.

One of the reasons I left police work last year was the fact some one-third to one-half of the police officers I worked with, both in the military and in civilian life, resemble Sgt. Gwenn, even if only slightly. Xenophobia has always been an unfortunate part of our American society, and many of those in whom we place high trust suffer from its effects. That's one of the reasons MOON KNIGHT #15 hit so close to home. Fortunately, as far as I know, no cop has ever taken it as far as Gwenn did. Let's hope none ever do.

I like the new format and hope your experiment finds positive results. I'm more than willing to fork out the extra 15¢ for the extra features, longer story, double letters page, and Bullpen Bulletins. And I loved the cover, made especially effective by the absence of the Universal Products Code box in the lower left-hand corner. Did Bill do the cover? If so, what was the technique used?

Dave Horn
13418 Floral Avenue
Poway, CA 92064

Thanks, Dave. Frank Miller and Joe Jusko were responsible for the cover. The only "technique" involved the use of black & white toning in lieu of normal color — Denny's idea, by the way.

Dear Doug:

Just finished reading MOON KNIGHT #15. The artwork is superb. Stunning. The complex characterization of Moon Knight is compelling, fascinating. And the villain is portrayed in a way that draws us into an encounter with the social realities of our day.

Having said all that, however, I have one major criticism to make. You are biased. I have noticed this repeatedly in many other Marvel comics (among them, HOWARD THE DUCK). Why is Xenos; the villain, the would-be assassin, portrayed as a right-wing nut? This makes no sense in terms of the real world. Lee Havey Oswald and Sirhan Sirhan were both *left*-wing nuts. Other assassins have simply been nuts period. Not *one* of the political assassinations in this country in the last twenty years has been committed by a right-wing nut. "Squeaky" Fromme who tried to kill President Ford was associated with Charles Manson, and her personal ideology was Marxist. Why is it that liberals, such as you, are so quick to condemn violence of the right (such as in South Africa) but so unwilling to even *see* it when it is committed by the left (e.g. the Kennedy assassinations, the communist slaughter in Cambodia, Vietnam, Afghanistan, etc.)?

Finally, you do a severe injustice to the character of Moon Knight by having him utter such bleeding heart liberal cliches as "Maybe, in a way, we *all* did it." Suggesting that all society is somehow *guilty* for the actions of an individual is false reasoning. I for one plead not guilty to everything! You and I are responsible for our behavior and no one else's. It's really *not* my fault that John Lennon is dead. It is Chapman's fault and he should be held responsible. If we go to the theory that every criminal is simply a poor victim of society and therefore not personally responsible, we are opening the door to barbarism. And, in fact, this *has* been the trend for the last twenty years. The solution is hardly more liberal ideology, which has actually worsened the problems it sought to cure.

Alan Borgh
2466 N. 50th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53210

You're right. Xenos was a right-wing fascistic hatemonger. The nature of the character, and the theme of the story, could hardly have it any other way. But on the other hand, considering the legions of Russian and Chinese baddies cavorting through the pages of MASTER OF KUNG FU (e.g. Samisdat, Ghost-Maker, Skull-Crusher, et al) and the terrorist plane hijackers in THE HULK! a few years back, Doug has hardly been soft on the left. Fanatics on both sides make the best villains.

Dear Doug, Bill, and Denny,

Just finished reading #15 and feel I *have* to write...

Doug is the master of bizarre plots and weird characters, as Xenos here exemplifies. I mean, no other writer could handle such a character without making the whole thing seem silly, but Doug can not only get away with it, he makes the character interesting and believable to boot.

But then, the villains in this book have always been unique. Bushman, the Slasher, Midnight Man, the Committee, the Moon Kings, Cajun Creed, Morpheus, and now Xenos — they're all top-notch! Not a single corny super-villain in the bunch! They are, instead, well thought out characters with absorbing psychological dimensions — masterpieces of creativity, one and all! Bushman is my personal favorite, for he seems to symbolize what Moon Knight almost became — a ruthless, remorseless killer. On top of that, he has already shown himself to be Moon Knight's most deadly foe, so I'm hoping each of his future appearances will be treated with the same care and style.

But back to #15. MK's mental fear of possibly being the assassin himself was interesting, but I thought the Spector/Grant/Lockley/Moon Knight identity crisis had been unscrambled in the already classic two-parter from #9 & 10. Please don't have him regress. I hate to think that my favorite hero might be mentally ill.

The rest of the issue — the glass-covered rat-infested tabletop terrain, the rodents in army uniforms, Gwenn's strange similarity to Moon Knight — all beautifully done. I'd like to see Xenos return on a grander scale. I realize he doesn't have Grant's unlimited funds, but wouldn't it be interesting to give him a small group of followers to assist in his "war against foreigners?" That would pose even more striking similarities between him and Moon Knight. Perhaps the aides could be other policemen gone bad.

The Flint character introduced a few issues back proves in this issue to be a sharp portrait of a seasoned cop. His relationship with Moon Knight is quite realistic, but I'd like to see them trust each other a little more.

I'm kind of sorry Frenchie and especially Marlene didn't have much to do in this adventure. Guess we can't have everything — and this was one score Mk had to settle himself, anyway.

Bill's art was, as always, *excellent!* He is *the* Mk artist. No one else could capture the excitement and mood Bill contributes to this book. Speaking of his art, I recently bought Bill's MOON KNIGHT portfolio and it's terrific! No MK fan should be without one. Now if we could just get him to do a follow-up Moon Knight portfolio in *color!* Well, I can dream, can't I?

Another of this book's finer qualities — besides the great villains, sophisticated characterizations, and mature plots — are the covers. Never has *any* other comic maintained the consistent degree of excellence in covers for fifteen straight issues — and this one was the best yet!

The special feature back-up article by Doug was a great idea. I'm looking forward to further articles by him.

You fellows have got an instant classic on your hands. MOON KNIGHT is the best comic published today. It dares to be different. It dares to be thoughtful and mature. But best of all, and more than any other comic, MOON KNIGHT dares to show us the harsh reality of true violence and the true honor and nobility of rightness. The hero risks all, but we know his risks and values are not hollow. He is truly the hero of the 80's.

Marty Powell
10907 Torrington Rd.
Valley Station, KY 40272

Not bad for a guy created in 1974, eh Marty?

Seriously, we hope — and would like to think — that you're right. But as ever, we have no way of knowing for sure unless you tell us. That's right, it's poll time once again and the question on the ballot right here sez: What kind of Moon Knight stories do you prefer?

Let us know, huh? It's the only way you'll get more of what you want. And remember: Now that we're boasting a double letters page, your comments have a better shot at making it into print...

And so, girded against the inevitable blizzard of mail (we love it!), we remain sincerely yours truly in appreciation and et cetera until next issue. See ya then!

BULLPEN BULLETIN SPECIAL

THE OBLIGATORY INTRODUCTION...

...as painlessly as possible — I'm Jim Shooter, Editor-in-Chief, and the purpose of this column is to give you, our more knowledgeable, more discerning readers the information and news you're most interested in. I do requests, (within the bounds of reason) so if there's anything you'd like to see discussed here, write at this address: **Jim Shooter % Marvel Comics, 575 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y., 10022.**

DOWN TO BUSINESS...

The biggest news lately is that penciler Denys Cowan has signed an exclusive contract with Marvel Comics. Denys is the tall, slim, wiry Karate Black Belt who recently began drawing POWER MAN AND IRON FIST. He's only twenty years old, but already his artist skills have earned him respect and admiration in the professional community. His bold storytelling approach and superb draftsmanship are frequently compared with those of Bill Sienkiewicz, who, at the ripe age of twenty-four is widely regarded as one of the leading talents in the field. The young guys are taking over. Sigh. Oh, well... look for Denys in his stylish western hat at conventions and gatherings of professionals, and look for his work in our comics.

MORE NEWS...

...*good* news. The other day I received this letter in my morning mail:

"Dear Jim,

Once again it is my pleasure to write and congratulate you and Marvel Comics on behalf of Great Britain for your amazing showing in the Eagle Awards for 1980, presented at London's annual Comicon at the end of last month.

To be more precise, the congratulations should go to one book and its creators — THE X-MEN — which swept to top honours in 11 out of the 14 American categories in the Awards. The enclosed certificates will bear witness to this, plus those which have been sent to individual winners (John Byrne - Favourite Artist; Chris Claremont - Favourite Writer; and Terry Austin - Favourite Inker).

This is the fifth year of the Eagle Awards and the fifth straight win for THE X-MEN as favourite book in Great Britain. John and Chris have shared top honours in their respective fields for three straight years. I think this proves conclusively how popular THE X-MEN are over here.

With best wishes,
Richard Burton,
co-organizer Eagle Awards

Richard Burton is a hightly regarded professional comics editor as well as a well-known fan magazine publisher. He is a man whose opinion I do not take lightly. He went on in his letter to remark about the strong showing made by DAREDEVIL in the 1980 balloting, and predicted that in upcoming years, Frank Miller and company will be giving the X-MEN a run for their money.

MORE NEWS...

Marvel Comics has just begun publishing our line of Graphic Novels, but already advance orders have virtually guaranteed the success of the first six, which will be published bi-monthly throughout 1982 beginning in January. The first six are *The Death of Captain Marvel* by Jim Starlin, *Elric: The Dreaming city* by Roy Thomas and P. Craig Russell, based on the novel by Michael Moorcock, *Dreadstar* by Jim Starlin, *The X-Men* by Chris Claremont and an artist to be announced later, as soon as he signs the contract, *The Starslammers* by Walt Simonson, and *The Avengers* by myself, Bob Hall and Dan Green.

Because of the strong response to these efforts, the second flight of six is already being planned. Currently under consideration are a proposed novel by Roger Stern and John Byrne featuring Spider-Man, one by Allen Milgrom featuring the Hulk, and one featuring an original character by Gil Kane. You'll hear more about these as we go along.

Till next month,

Jim Shooter

Just before press time we were advised that Wally Wood, one of the all-time greats of our profession, had passed away. The following, written by Larry Hama, who probably knew Woody best of all of us here at Marvel, sums up our feelings.

The comics world lost one of it's greatest innovators last month with the untimely passing of Wally Wood. His work was hilarious and terrifying; action-packed but solidly planted; amazingly child-like while maturely crafted. He brought us joy and wonder in four colors for a dime and the world will never see the likes of him again.

"Woody" had a youthful enthusiasm and genuinely generous nature — all trapped in a body that was aging too fast for him and pursued by the demons that nip at the heels of all who dare to defy the strictures of Never-Never Land.

Hopefully, there is a sylvan glade somewhere, where sleek, silver spaceships glide silently overhead, tentacled aliens lurk behind boulders muttering "spa-fon" and a cute little pipsqueak frolics with the nicest zaftig elvish ladies for an endless afternoon.

Larry Hama

THE HYPE BOX

This month, be on the lookout for...

TEAM AMERICA #1 — JIM SHOOTER and MIKE VOSBURG collaborate to bring you some nitty-gritty exciting adventures of a wild new collection of hard-ridin' motorcyclists — *Team America!* We thinks it's pretty neat stuff. Give it a shot.

KING CONAN #10 — Because you *still* can't get enough of Robert E. Howard's greatest creation, the King is now ***bi-monthly!*** In case you haven't seen it yet, KING CONAN is a slightly different Conan — older, wiser, more regal, but no less fierce and gutsy than he was as a youngster. DOUG MOENCH wrote it and ERNIE CHAN did the art. And they did a nice job of it, too.

MARVEL FANFARE #2 — We overheard (how could ya *miss* it?) editor AL MILGROM having a fit the other day over a (later corrected) printer's error on this mag. He cares about it. A lot. He, and the rest of us here at Marvel, feels it's something real special, an adless comic magazine printed on glossy, high-quality paper. Which means nothing if you haven't got quality material to fill it. But, you know, with CHRIS CLAREMONT and MICHAEL GOLDEN's ***Spider-Man/Angel/Ka-Zar*** team-up, and a **Mister Fantastic** solo adventure by ROGER McKENZIE, TREVOR VON EEDEN and ARMANDO GIL — we're not worried.

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ **MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #87** — Written by TOM DeFALCO. Pencils by RON WILSON. Inks by CHIC STONE. The **Thing** and **Ant-Man.**
- ☐ **KING CONAN #10** — Now ***bi-monthly!*** Written by DOUG MOENCH. Art by ERNIE CHAN.
- ☐ **DAZZLER #15** — Written by DANNY FINGEROTH. Pencils by FRANK SPRINGER. Inks by VINCE COLLETTA. Guest-starring **Spider-Woman!**
- ☐ **KA-ZAR #14** — Written by BRUCE JONES. Breakdowns by BRENT ANDERSON. Finishes by ARMANDO GIL. Plus more ***Tales of Zabu*** by BRUCE JONES and GIL KANE.
- ☐ **DENNIS THE MENACE #7** — Written by FRED TOOLE. Art by the KETCHAM STUDIOS.
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #182** — Written by FRANK MILLER. Breakdowns by FRANK MILLER. Finishes by KLAUS JANSON.
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #228** — Written by ROGER STERN. Breakdowns by JOHN ROMITA JR. Finishes by JIM MOONEY.
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #269** — Written by J.M. DeMATTEIS. Pencils by MIKE ZECK. Inks by JOHN BEATTY. Guest-starring... ***Team America!***
- ☐ **THOR #319** — Written by DOUG MOENCH. Breakdowns by KEITH POLLARD.
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #41** — Written by BILL MANTLO. Breakdowns by GIL KANE. Finishes by DANNY BULANADI.
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER #68** — Written by ROGER STERN. Pencils by BOB BUDIANSKY. Inks by JOSEF RUBINSTEIN.
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT #19** — Written by DOUG MOENCH. Breakdowns by BILL SIENKIEWICZ. Finishes by STEVE MITCHELL. Cover *painting* by JOE JUSKO.
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #271** — Written by BILL MANTLO. Art by SAL BUSCEMA.
- ☐ **AVENGERS #219** — Written by JIM SHOOTER. Pencils by BOB HALL. Inks by DAN GREEN.
- ☐ **CONAN #134** — Written by BRUCE JONES. Breakdowns by GIL KANE. Finishes by DANNY BULANADI.
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #139** — Reprinting ***Amazing Spider-Man #2*** by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO!
- ☐ **X-MEN #157** — Written by CHRIS CLAREMONT. Pencils by DAVE COCKRUM. Inks by BOB WIACEK.
- ☐ **ROM #30** — Written by BILL MANTLO. Breakdowns by SAL BUSCEMA. Finishes by JOE SINNOTT.
- ☐ **POWER MAN/IRON FIST #81** — Written by JO DUFFY. Pencils by DENYS COWAN. Inks by RICARDO VILLAMONTE.
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #242** — Written, penciled and inked by JOHN BYRNE. Cover by BYRNE and TERRY AUSTIN.
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP #117** — Written by J.M. DeMATTEIS. Pencils by HERB TRIMPE. Inks by MIKE ESPOSITO. **Spider-Man**, and the X-MEN's ***Wolverine!*** 'Nuff said!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #158** — Written by DENNY O'NEIL. Pencils by CARMINE INFANTINO. Inks by DAN GREEN.
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #66** — Written by BILL MANTLO. Pencils by ED HANNIGAN. Inks by JIM MOONEY.
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #107** — Written by J.M. DeMATTEIS. Breakdowns by DON PERLIN. Finishes by JOE SINNOTT and SAL TRAPANI. Death claims *two* Defenders!
- ☐ **STAR WARS #59** — Written by DAVID MICHELINIE. Breakdowns by WALT SIMONSON. Finishes by TOM PALMER.
- ☐ **MASTER OF KUNG FU #112** — Written by DOUG MOENCH. Art by GENE DAY.
- ☐ **TEAM AMERICA #1** — Written by JIM SHOOTER. Breakdowns by MIKE VOSBURG. Pandemonious premiere issue of the greatest motorcycle group of them all — Team America!

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **CRAZY #85** — A giant-sized *Crazy Super Special* featuring 80% *new* material including: *The Boy Sprouts Handbook* by STEVE SKEATES and RALPH REESE; *Teen Hulk; Obnoxio; Kinetic Kids; Aunty Nuke* and lots more.
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #75** — "Temple of the Twelve-Eyed Thing" written by MICHAEL FLEISHER with art by ALFREDO ALCALA. Plus: more of "Island of Pirates' Doom" by ROY THOMAS, JOHN BUSCEMA, and DANNY BULANADI. Cover painting by EARL NOREM.
- ☐ **EPIC ILLUSTRATED #11** — ***Marada the She-Wolf*** by CHRIS CLAREMONT and JOHN BOLTON; ***Run For the Stars*** by KEN STEACY (based on the HARLAN ELLISON story); more ***Weirdworld*** by DOUG MOENCH, JOHN BUSCEMA, MARIE SEVERIN, and STEVE OLIFF; LEE MARRS' ***Pit Stop***; and more fantasy to tantalize you. Cover by JAMES FOX.
- ☐ **MARVEL FANFARE #2** — The second issue of Marvel's very special new magazine; featuring contributions by CHRIS CLAREMONT, MICHAEL GOLDEN, ROGER McKENZIE, TREVOR VON EEDEN and ARMANDO GIL.

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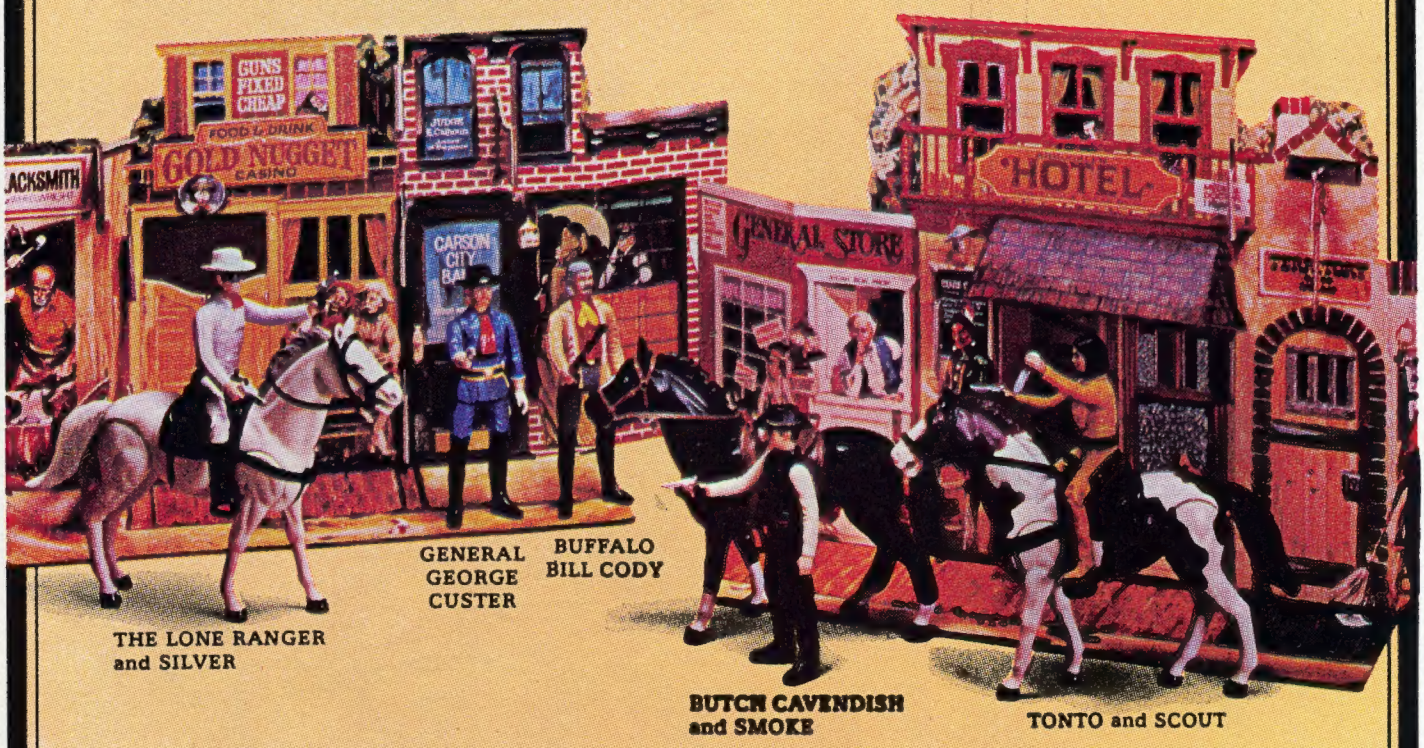

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